PR
1580
H3

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
1800

Class PR1580
Book .H3
Copyright No.

COPYRIGHT DEPOSIT.

BEÓWULF.

I. TEXT:

Edited from M. Heyne

BY

JAMES ALBERT HARRISON,
PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH AND MODERN LANGUAGES IN WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY; AUTHOR OF "A HISTORY OF SPAIN," "A FRENCH SYNTAX," ETC., ETC.

BOSTON:
PUBLISHED BY GINN, HEATH, & CO.
1882.

BEÓWULF.

514
1532

I. TEXT:

Edited from M. Heyne

BY

JAMES ALBERT HARRISON,
PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH AND MODERN LANGUAGES IN WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY; AUTHOR OF "A HISTORY OF SPAIN," "A FRENCH SYNTAX," ETC., ETC.

9600 n

BOSTON:
PUBLISHED BY GINN, HEATH, & CO.
1882.

PR 1580
.H3

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1882, by
JAMES ALBERT HARRISON,
in the office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington.

J. S. Cushing & Co., Printers, 101 Pearl Street, Boston.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
CITY OF WASHINGTON.

NOTE.

THE present work, carefully edited from Heyne's fourth edition, (Paderborn, 1879), is designed primarily for college classes in Anglo-Saxon, rather than for independent investigators or for seekers after a restored or ideal text. The need of an American edition of "Beówulf" has long been felt, as, hitherto, students have had either to send to Germany for a text, or secure, with great trouble, one of the scarce and expensive English editions. Heyne's first edition came out in 1863, and was followed in 1867 and 1873 by a second and a third edition, all three having essentially the same text.

So many important contributions to the "Beówulf" literature were, however, made between 1873 and 1879 that Heyne found it necessary to put forth a new edition (1879). In this new, last edition, the text was subjected to a careful revision, and was fortified by the views, contributions, and criticisms of other zealous scholars. In it the collation of the unique "Beówulf" Ms. (Vitellius A. 15: Cottonian Mss. of the British Museum), as made by E. Kölbing in Herrig's *Archiv* (Bd. 56; 1876), was followed wherever the present condition of the Ms. had to be discussed; and the researches of Bugge, Rieger, and others, on single passages, were made use of. The discussion of the metrical structure of the poem, as occurring in the second and third editions, was omitted in the fourth, owing to the many controversies in which the subject is still involved. The present editor has thought it best to do the same, though, happily, the subject of Old English *Metrik* is undergoing a steady illumination through the labors of Schipper and others.

Some errors and misplaced accents in Heyne's text have been corrected in the present edition, in which, as in the general revision of the text, the editor has been most kindly aided by Prof. J. M. Garnett, late Principal of St. John's College, Maryland.

In the preparation of the present school edition it has been thought best to omit Heyne's notes, as they concern themselves principally with conjectural emendations, substitutions of one reading for another, and discussions of the condition of the Ms. Until Wülcker's text and the photographic fac-simile of the original Ms. are in the hands of all scholars, it will be better not to introduce such matters in the school room, where they would puzzle without instructing.

A *Glossary*, carefully translated from Heyne by the editor and Prof. Robert Sharp of the University of Louisiana, will, it is hoped, speedily follow the text as here presented.

For convenience of reference, the editor has added a head-line to each "fit" of the poem, with a view to facilitate a knowledge of its episodes.

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY,
LEXINGTON, VA., June, 1882.

DEDICATED

TO

PROFESSOR F. A. MARCH,

OF

LAFAYETTE COLLEGE, PA.

BEÓWULF.

I. The Passing of Scyld.

HWÄT! we Gâr-Dena in geâr-dagum
þeód-cyninga þrym gefrunon,
hû þâ äðelingas ellen fremedon.
Oft Scyld Scêfing sceaðena þreátum,
5 monegum mægðum meodo-setla ofteáh.
Egsode eorl, syððan ærest wearð
feá-sceaft funden: he þäs frôfre gebâd,
weôx under wolcnum, weorð-myndum ðâh,
ôð þät him æghwylc þâra ymb-sittendra
10 ofer hron-râde hŷran scolde,
gomban gyldan: þät wäs gôd cyning!
þäm eafera wäs äfter cenned
geong in geardum, þone god sende
folce tô frôfre; fyren-þearfe ongeat,
15 þät hie ær drugon aldor-*le*áse
lange hwîle. Him þäs lîf-freá,
wuldres wealdend, worold-âre forgeaf;
Beówulf wäs breme (blæd wîde sprang),
Scyldes eafera Scede-landum in.
20 Swâ sceal *geong gu*ma gôde gewyrcean,
fromum feoh-giftum on fäder *wi*ne,
þät hine on ylde eft gewunigen
wil-gesîðas, þonne wîg cume,
leóde gelæsten: lof-dædum sceal
25 in mægða gehwære man geþeón.
Him þâ Scyld gewât tô gescäp-hwîle
fela-hrôr fêran on freán wäre;
hi hyne þâ ätbæron tô brimes faroðe,

swæse gesîðas, swâ he selfa bäd,
30 þenden wordum weóld wine Scyldinga,
leóf land-fruma lange âhte.
Þær ät hŷðe stôd hringed-stefna,
îsig and ûtfûs, äðelinges fär;
â-lêdon þâ leófne þeóden,
35 beága bryttan on bearm scipes,
mærne be mäste. Þær wäs mâdma fela,
of feor-wegum frätwa gelæded:
ne hŷrde ic cymlîcor ceól gegyrwan
hilde-wæpnum and heaðo-wædum,
40 billum and byrnum; him on bearme läg
mâdma mänigo, þâ him mid scoldon
on flôdes æht feor gewîtan.
Nalas hi hine lässan lâcum teódan,
þeód-gestreónum, þonne þâ dydon,
45 þe hine ät frumsceafte forð onsendon
ænne ofer ŷðe umbor wesende:
þâ gyt hie him âsetton segen g*yl*denne
heáh ofer heáfod, lêton holm beran,
geâfon on gâr-secg: him wäs geômor sefa,
50 murnende môd. Men ne cunnon
secgan tô sôðe sêle rædenne,
häleð under heofenum, hwâ þäm hläste onfêng.

II. The Hall Heorot.

Þa wäs on burgum Beówulf Scyldinga,
leóf leód-cyning, longe þrage
55 folcum gefræge (fäder ellor hwearf,
aldor of earde), ôð þät him eft onwôc
heáh Healfdene; heóld þenden lifde,
gamol and gûð-reów, gläde Scyldingas.
Þäm feówer bearn forð-gerîmed

60 in worold wôcun, weoroda ræswan,
Heorogâr and Hrôðgâr and Hâlga til;
hŷrde ic, þät Elan cwên *Ongenþeówes wäs*
Heaðoscilfinges heals-gebedde.
Þâ wäs Hrôðgâre here-spêd gyfen,
65 wîges weorð-mynd, þät him his wine-mâgas
georne hŷrdon, ôð þät seó geogoð geweôx,
mago-driht micel. Him on môd bearn,
þät heal-reced hâtan wolde,
medo-ärn micel men gewyrcean,
70 þone yldo bearn æfre gefrunon,
and þær on innan eall gedælan
geongum and ealdum, swylc him god sealde,
buton folc-scare and feorum gumena.
Þâ ic wîde gefrägn weorc gebannan
75 manigre mægðe geond þisne middan-geard,
folc-stede frätwan. Him on fyrste gelomp
ädre mid yldum. þät hit wearð eal gearo,
heal-ärna mæst; scôp him Heort naman,
se þe his wordes geweald wîde häfde.
80 He beót ne âlêh, beágas dælde,
sinc ät symle. Sele hlifade
heáh and horn-geáp: heaðo-wylma bâd,
lâðan lîges; ne wäs hit lenge þâ gen.
þät se ecg-hete âðum-swerian
85 äfter wäl-nîðe wäcnan scolde.
Þâ se ellen-gæst earfoðlîce
þrage geþolode, se þe in þŷstrum bâd,
þät he dôgora gehwam dreám gehŷrde
hlûdne in healle; þær wäs hearpan swêg,
90 swutol sang scôpes. Sägde se þe cûðe
frum-sceaft fira feorran reccan,
cwäð þät se älmihtiga eorðan worht*e*,
wlite-beorhtne wang, swâ wäter bebûgeð,
gesette sige-hrêðig sunnan and mônan

95 leóman tô leóhte land-bûendum,
and gefrätwade foldan sceátas
leomum and leáfum; lîf eác gesceôp
cynna gehwylcum, þâra þe cwice hwyrfað.
Swâ þâ driht-guman dreámum lifdon
100 eádiglîce, ôð þät ân ongan
fyrene fremman, feónd on helle:
wäs se grimma gäst Grendel hâten,
mære mearc-stapa, se þe môras heóld,
fen and fästen; fîfel-cynnes eard
105 won-sælig wer weardode hwîle,
siððan him scyppend forscrifen häfde.
In Caines cynne þone cwealm gewräc,
êce drihten, þäs þe he Abel slôg;
ne gefeah he þære fæhðe, ac he hine feor forwräc,
110 metod for þŷ mâne man-cynne fram.
Þanon untydras ealle onwôcon,
eotenas and ylfe and orcnêas,
swylce gigantas, þâ wið gode wunnon
lange þrage; he him þäs leán forgeald.

III. Grendel's Visits.

115 Gewât þâ neósian, syððan niht becom,
heán hûses, hû hit Hring-Dene
äfter beór-þege gebûn häfdon.
Fand þâ þær inne äðelinga gedriht
swefan äfter symble; sorge ne cûðon,
120 won-sceaft wera. Wiht unhælo
grim and grædig gearo sôna wäs,
reóc and rêðe, and on räste genam
þritig þegna: þanon eft gewât
hûðe hrêmig tô hám faran,
125 mid þære wäl-fylle wîca neósan.

Þâ wäs on uhtan mid ær-däge
Grendles gûð-cräft gumum undyrne:
þâ wäs äfter wiste wôp up âhafen,
micel morgen-swêg. Mære þeóden,
130 äðeling ær-gôd, unblîde sät,
þolode þryð-swyð, þegn-sorge dreáh,
syððan hie þäs lâðan lâst sceáwedon,
wergan gâstes; wäs þät gewin tô strang,
lâð and longsum. Näs hit lengra fyrst,
135 ac ymb âne niht eft gefremede
morð-beala mâre and nô mearn fore
fæhðe and fyrene; wäs tô fäst on þâm.
Þâ wäs eáð-fynde, þe him elles hwær
gerûmlîcor räste *sôhte*,
140 bed äfter bûrum, þâ him gebeácnod wäs,
gesägd sôðlîce sweotolan tâcne
heal-þegnes hete; heóld hine syððan
fyr and fästor, se þäm feónde ätwand.
Swâ rîxode and wið rihte wan
145 âna wið eallum, ôð þät îdel stôd
hûsa sêlest. Wäs seó hwîl micel:
twelf wintra tîd torn geþolode
wine Scyldinga, weána gehwelcne,
sîdra sorga; forþam *syððan* wearð
150 ylda bearnum undyrne cûð,
gyddum geômore, þätte Grendel wan
hwîle wið Hrôðgâr; — hete-nîðas wäg,
fyrene and fæhðe fela missera,
singale säce, sibbe ne wolde
155 wið manna hwone mägenes Deniga
feorh-bealo feorran, feó þingian,
ne þær nænig witena wênan þorfte
beorhtre bôte tô banan folmum;
atol äglæca êhtende wäs,
160 deore deáð-scûa duguðe and geogoðe,

seomade and syrede. Sin-nihte heóld
mistige môras; men ne cunnon,
hwyder hel-rûnan hwyrftum scrîðað.
Swâ fela fyrena feónd man-cynnes,
165 atol ân-gengea, oft gefremede
heardra hŷnða; Heorot eardode,
sinc-fâge sel sweartum nihtum
(nô he þone gif-stôl grêtan môste,
mâððum for metode, ne his myne wisse);
170 þät wäs wræc micel wine Scyldinga,
môdes brecða. Monig-oft gesät
rîce tô rûne; ræd eahtedon,
hwät swîð-ferhðum sêlest wære
wið fær-gryrum tô gefremmanne.
175 Hwîlum hie gehêton ät härg-trafum
wig-weorðunga, wordum bædon,
þät him gâst-bona geóce gefremede
wið þeód-þreáum. Swylc wäs þeáw hyra,
hæðenra hyht; helle gemundon
180 in môd-sefan, metod hie ne cûðon,
dæda dêmend, ne wiston hie drihten god,
ne hie hûru heofena helm hêrian ne cûðon,
wuldres waldend. Wâ bið þäm þe sceal
þurh slîðne nîð sâwle bescûfan
185 in fŷres fäðm, frôfre ne wênan,
wihte gewendan; wel bið þäm þe môt
äfter deáð-däge drihten sêcean
and tô fäder fäðmum freoðo wilnian.

IV. Hygelac's Thane.

Swâ þâ mæl-ceare maga Healfdenes
190 singala seáð; ne mihte snotor häleð
weán onwendan: wäs þät gewin tô swŷð,
lâð and longsum, þe on þâ leóde becom,

nŷd-wracu nîð-grim, niht-bealwa mæst.
Þät fram hâm gefrägn Higelâces þegn,
195 gôd mid Geátum, Grendles dæda:
se wäs mon-cynnes mägenes strengest
on þäm däge þysses lîfes,
äðele and eácen. Hêt him ŷð-lidan
gôdne gegyrwan; cwäð he gûð-cyning
200 ofer swan-râde sêcean wolde,
mærne þeóden, þâ him wäs manna þearf.
Þone sîð-fät him snotere ceorlas
lyt-hwon lôgon, þeáh he him leóf wære;
hwetton higerôfne, hæl sceáwedon.
205 Häfde se gôda Geáta leóda
cempan gecorone, þâra þe he cênoste
findan mihte; fîftena sum
sund-wudu sôhte; secg wîsade,
lagu-cräftig mon, land-gemyrcu.
210 Fyrst forð gewât: flota wäs on ŷðum,
bât under beorge. Beornas gearwe
on stefn stigon; streámas wundon
sund wið sande; secgas bæron
on bearm nacan beorhte frätwe,
215 gûð-searo geatolîc; guman ût scufon,
weras on wil-sîð wudu bundenne.
Gewât þâ ofer wæg-holm winde gefŷsed
flota fâmig-heals fugle gelîcost,
ôð þät ymb ân-tîd ôðres dôgores
220 wunden-stefna gewaden häfde,
þät þâ lîðende land gesâwon,
brim-clifu blîcan, beorgas steápe,
sîde sæ-nässas: þâ wäs sund liden,
eoletes ät ende. Þanon up hraðe
225 Wedera leóde on wang stigon,
sæ-wudu sældon (syrcan hrysedon,
gûð-gewædo); gode þancedon,

þäs þe him ŷð-lâde eáðe wurdon.
Þâ of wealle geseah weard Scildinga,
230 se þe holm-clifu healdan scolde,
beran ofer bolcan beorhte randas,
fyrd-searu fûslîcu; hine fyrwyt bräc
môd-gehygdum, hwät þâ men wæron.
Gewât him þâ tô waroðe wicge rîdan
235 þegn Hrôðgâres, þrymmum cwehte
mägen-wudu mundum, meðel-wordum frägn:
"Hwät syndon ge searo-häbbendra
"byrnum werede, þe þus brontne ceól
"ofer lagu-stræte lædan cwômon,
240 "hider ofer holmas *helmas bæron?*
"Ic wäs ende-sæta, æg-wearde heóld,
"þät on land Dena lâðra nænig
"mid scip-herge sceððan ne meahte.
"Nô her cûðlîcor cuman ongunnon
245 "lind-häbbende; ne ge leáfnes-word
"gûð-fremmendra gearwe ne wisson,
"mâga gemêdu. Næfre ic mâran geseah
"eorla ofer eorðan, þonne is eówer sum,
"secg on searwum; nis þät seld-guma
250 "wæpnum geweorðad, näfne him his wlite leóge,
"ænlîc an-sŷn. Nu ic eówer sceal
"frum-cyn witan, ær ge fyr heonan
"leáse sceáweras on land Dena
"furður fêran. Nu ge feor-bûend
255 "mere-lîðende mînne gehŷrað
"ân-fealdne geþôht: ôfest is sêlest
"tô gecŷðanne, hwanan eówre cyme syndon."

V. The Errand.

Him se yldesta andswarode,
werodes wîsa word-hord onleác:
260 "We synt gum-cynnes Geáta leóde
"and Higelâces heorð-geneátas.
"Wäs mîn fäder folcum gecŷðed,
"äðele ord-fruma Ecgþeów hâten;
"gebâd wintra worn, ær he on weg hwurfe,
265 "gamol of geardum; hine gearwe geman
"witena wel-hwylc wîde geond eorðan. —
"We þurh holdne hige hlâford þinne,
"sunu Healfdenes, sêcean cwômon,
"leód-gebyrgean: wes þu ûs lârena gôd!
270 "Habbað we tô þäm mæran micel ærende
"Deniga freán; ne sceal þær dyrne sum
"wesan, þäs ic wêne. Þu wâst, gif hit is,
"swâ we sôðlîce secgan hŷrdon,
"þät mid Scyldingum sceaða ic nât hwylc,
275 "deógol dæd-hata, deorcum nihtum
"eáweð þurh egsan uncûðne nîð,
"hŷnðu and hrâ-fyl. Ic þäs Hrôðgâr mäg
"þurh rûmne sefan ræd gelæran,
"hû he frôd and gôd feónd oferswŷðeð,
280 "gyf him ed-wendan æfre scolde
"bealuwa bisigu, bôt eft cuman
"and þa cear-wylmas côlran wurðað;
"oððe â syððan earfoð-þrage,
"þreá-nŷd þolað, þenden þær wunað
285 "on heáh-stede hûsa sêlest."
Weard maðelode, þær on wiege sät
ombeht unforht: "Æghwäðres sceal
"scearp scyld-wîga gescâd witan,
"worda and worca, se þe wel þenceð.

290 "Ic þät gehŷre, þät þis is hold weorod
"freán Scyldinga. Gewîtað forð beran
"wæpen and gewædu, ic eów wîsige:
"swylce ic magu-þegnas mîne hâte
"wið feónda gehwone flotan eówerne,
295 "niw-tyrwedne nacan on sande
"ârum healdan, ôð þät eft byreð
"ofer lagu-streámas leófne mannan
"wudu wunden-hals tô Weder-mearce.
"Gûð-fremmendra swylcum gifeðe bið,
300 "þät þone hilde-ræs hâl gedîgeð."
Gewiton him þâ fêran (flota stille bâd,
seomode on sâle sîd-fäðmed scyp,
on ancre fäst); eofor-lîc sciónon
ofer hleór-beran gehroden golde
305 fâh and fŷr-heard, ferh wearde heóld.
Gûðmôde grummon, guman onetton,
sigon ätsomne, ôð þät hy säl timbred
geatolîc and gold-fâh ongytan mihton;
þät wäs fore-mærost fold-bûendum
310 receda under roderum, on þäm se rîca bâd;
lixte se leóma ofer landa fela.
Him þâ hilde-deór hof môdigra
torht getæhte, þät hie him tô mihton
gegnum gangan; gûð-beorna sum
315 wicg gewende, word äfter cwäð:
"Mæl is me tô fêran; fäder alwalda
"mid âr-stafum eówic gehealde
"sîða gesunde! ic tô sæ wille,
"wið wrâð werod wearde healdan."

VI. Beówulf's Speech.

320 Stræt wäs stân-fâh, stîg wîsode
gumum ätgädere. Gûð-byrne scân
heard hond-locen, hring-îren scîr
song in searwum, þâ hie tô sele furðum
in hyra gryre-geatwum gangan cwômon.
325 Setton sæ-mêðe sîde scyldas,
rondas regn-hearde wið þäs recedes weal,
bugon þâ tô bence; byrnan hringdon,
gûð-searo gumena; gâras stôdon,
sæ-manna searo, samod ätgädere,
330 äsc-holt ufan græg: wäs se îren-þreát
wæpnum gewurðad. Þâ þær wlonc häleð
oret-mecgas äfter äðelum frägn:
"Hwanon ferigeað ge fätte scyldas,
"græge syrcan and grîm-helmas,
335 "here-sceafta heáp? — Ic eom Hrôðgâres
"âr and ombiht. Ne seah ic el-þeódige
"þus manige men môdiglîcran.
"Wên' ic þät ge for wlenco, nalles for wræc-sîðum,
"ac for hige-þrymmum Hrôðgâr sôhton."
340 Him þâ ellen-rôf andswarode,
wlanc Wedera leód word äfter spräc,
heard under helme: "We synt Higelâces
"beód-geneátas; Beówulf is mîn nama.
"Wille ic âsecgan suna Healfdenes,
345 "mærum þeódne mîn ærende,
"aldre þînum, gif he ûs geunnan wile,
"þät we hine swâ gôdne grêtan môton."
Wulfgâr maðelode (þät wäs Wendla leód,
wäs his môd-sefa manegum gecýðed,
350 wîg and wîs-dôm): "ic þäs wine Deniga,
"freán Scildinga frinan wille,

"beága bryttan, swâ þu bêna eart,
"þeóden mærne ymb þînne sîð;
"and þe þâ andsware ädre gecŷðan,
355 "þe me se gôda âgifan þenceð."
Hwearf þâ hrädlîce, þær Hrôðgâr sät,
eald and unhâr mid his eorla gedriht;
eode ellen-rôf, þät he for eaxlum gestôd
Deniga freán, cûðe he duguðe þeáw.
360 Wulfgâr maðelode tô his wine-drihtne:
"Her syndon geferede feorran cumene
"ofer geofenes begang Geáta leóde:
"þone yldestan oret-mecgas
"Beówulf nemnað. Hy bênan synt,
365 "þät hie, þeóden mîn, wið þe môton
"wordum wrixlan; nô þu him wearne geteóh,
"þînra gegn-cwida glädnian, Hrôðgâr!
"Hy on wîg-geatwum wyrðe þinceð
"eorla geæhtlan; hûru se aldor deáh,
370 "se þæm heaðo-rincum hider wîsade."

VII. Hrothgar's Welcome.

Hrôðgâr maðelode, helm Scyldinga:
"Ic hine cûðe cniht-wesende.
"Wäs his eald-fäder Ecgþeó hâten,
"þäm tô hâm forgeaf Hrêðel Geáta
375 "ângan dôhtor; is his eafora nu
"heard her cumen, sôhte holdne wine.
"Þonne sägdon þät sæ-lîðende,
"þâ þe gif-sceattas Geáta fyredon
"þyder tô þance, þät he þrittiges
380 "manna mägen-räft on his mund-gripe
"heaðo-rôf häbbe. Hine hâlig god
"for âr-stafum ûs onsende,

"tô West-Denum, þäs ic wên häbbe,
"wið Grendles gryre: ic þäm gôdan sceal
385 "for his môd-þräce mâdmas beódan.
"Beó þu on ôfeste, hât *hig* in gân,
"seón sibbe-gedriht samod ätgädere;
"gesaga him eác wordum, þät hie sint wil-cuman
"Deniga leódum." *Þâ wið duru healle*
390 *Wulfgâr eode*, word inne âbeád:
"Eów hêt secgan sige-drihten mîn,
"aldor Eást-Dena, þät he eówer äðelu can
"and ge him syndon ofer sæ-wylmas,
"heard-hicgende, hider wil-cuman.
395 "Nu ge môton gangan in eówrum gûð-geatawum,
"under here-grîman, Hrôðgâr geseón;
"lætað hilde-bord her onbidian,
"wudu wäl-sceaftas, worda geþinges."
Arâs þâ se rîca, ymb hine rinc manig,
400 þryðlîc þegna heáp; sume þær bidon,
heaðo-reáf heóldon, swâ him se hearda bebeád.
Snyredon ätsomne, þâ secg wîsode
under Heorotes hrôf; *hyge-rôf eode*,
heard under helme, þät he on heoðe gestôd.
405 Beówulf maðelode (on him byrne scân,
searo-net seówed smiðes or-þancum):
"Wes þu Hrôðgâr hâl! ic eom Higelâces
"mæg and mago-þegn; häbbe ic mærða fela
"ongunnen on geogoðe. Me wearð Grendles þing
410 "on mînre êðel-tyrf undyrne cûð:
"secgað sæ-lîðend, þät þes sele stande,
"reced sêlesta, rinca gehwylcum
"îdel and unnyt, siððan æfen-leóht
"under heofenes hâdor beholen weorðeð.
415 "Þâ me þät gelærdon leóde mîne,
"þâ sêlestan, snotere ceorlas,
"þeóden Hrôðgâr, þät ic þe sôhte;

"forþan hie mägenes cräft mînne cûðon:
"selfe ofersâwon, þâ ic of searwum cwom,
420 "fâh from feóndum, þær ic fîfe geband,
"ŷðde eotena cyn, and on ŷðum slôg
"niceras nihtes, nearo-þearfe dreáh,
"wräc Wedera nîð (weán âhsodon)
"forgrand gramum; and nu wið Grendel sceal,
425 "wið þam aglæcan, âna gehegan
"þing wið þyrse. Ic þe nu þâ,
"brego Beorht-Dena, biddan wille,
"eodor Scyldinga, ânre bêne;
"þät þu me ne forwyrne, wigendra hleó,
430 "freó-wine folca, nu ic þus feorran com,
"þät ic môte âna and mînra eorla gedryht,
"þes hearda heáp, Heorot fælsian.
"Häbbe ic eác geâhsod, þät se äglæca
"for his won-hydum wæpna ne rêceð;
435 "ic þät þonne forhiege, swâ me Higelâc sîe,
"mîn mon-drihten, môdes blîðe,
"þät ic sweord bere oððe sîdne scyld
"geolo-rand tô gûðe; ac ic mid grâpe sceal
"fôn wið feónde and ymb feorh sacan,
440 "lâð wið lâðum; þær gelŷfan sceal
"dryhtnes dôme se þe hine deáð nimeð.
"Wên' ic þät he wille, gif he wealdan môt,
"in þäm gûð-sele Geátena leóde
"etan unforhte, swâ he oft dyde
445 "mägen Hrêðmanna. Nâ þu mînne þearft
"hafalan hŷdan, ac he me habban wile
"dreóre fâhne, gif mec deáð nimeð,
"byreð blôdig wäl, byrgean þenceð,
"eteð ân-genga unmurnlîce,
450 "mearcað môr-hôpu: nô þu ymb mînes ne þearft
"lîces feorme leng sorgian.
"Onsend Higelâce, gif mec hild nime,

"beadu-scrûda betst, þät mîne breóst wered,
"hrägla sêlest; þät is Hrêðlan lâf,
455 "Wêlandes geweorc. Gæð â Wyrd swâ hió scel!"

VIII. Hrothgar tells of Grendel.

Hrôðgâr maðelode, helm Scyldinga:
"for *were*-fyhtum þu, wine mîn Beówulf,
"and for âr-stafum ûsic sôhtest.
"Geslôh þin fäder fæhðe mæste,
460 "weard he Heaðolâfe tô hand-bonan
"mid Wilfingum; þâ hine Wedera cyn
"for here-brôgan habban ne mihte.
"Þanon he gesôhte Sûð-Dena folc
"ofer ŷða geweale, Âr-Scyldinga;
465 "þâ ic furðum weóld folce Deninga,
"and on geogoðe heóld gimme-rîce
"hord-burh häleða: þâ wäs Heregâr deád,
"mîn yldra mæg unlifigende,
"bearn Healfdenes. Se wäs betera þonne ic!
470 "Siddan þâ fæhðe feó þingode;
"sende ic Wylfingum ofer wäteres hryeg
"ealde mâdmas: he me âðas swôr.
"Sorh is me tô seeganne on sefan mînum
"gumena ængum, hwät me Grendel hafað
475 "hŷnðo on Heorote mid his hete-þancum,
"fær-nîða gefremed. Is mîn flet-werod,
"wîg-heáp gewanod; hie Wyrd forsweóp
"on Grendles gryre. God eáðe mäg
"þone dol-scaðan dæda getwæfan!
480 "Ful oft gebeótedon beóre druncne
"ofer ealo-wæge oret-mecgas,
"þät hie in beór-sele bîdan woldon
"Grendles gûðe mid gryrum ecga.

"Þonne wäs þeós medo-heal on morgen-tîd,
485 "driht-sele dreór-fâh, þonne däg lixte,
"eal benc-þelu blôde bestŷmed,
"heall heoru-dreóre: âhte ic holdra þŷ läs,
"deórre duguðe, þe þâ deáð fornam.
"Site nu tô symle and onsæl meoto,
490 "sige-hrêð secgum, swâ þîn sefa hwette!"
Þâ wäs Geát-mäegum geador ätsomne
on beór-sele benc gerŷmed;
þær swîð-ferhðe sittan eodon
þryðum dealle. Þegn nytte beheóld,
495 se þe on handa bär hroden ealo-wæge,
scencte scîr wered. Scop hwîlum sang
hâdor on Heorote; þær wäs häleða dreám,
duguð unlytel Dena and Wedera.

IX. Hunferth Objects to Beówulf.

Hûnferð maðelode, Ecglâfes bearn,
500 þe ät fôtum sät freán Scyldinga;
onband beadu-rûne (wäs him Beówulfes sîð,
môdges mere-faran, micel äf-þunca,
forþon þe he ne ûðe, þät ænig ôðer man
æfre mærða þon mâ middan-geardes
505 gehêdde under heofenum þonne he sylfa):
"Eart þu se Beówulf, se þe wið Brecan wunne,
"on sîdne sæ ymb sund flite,
"þær git for wlence wada cunnedon
"and for dol-gilpe on deóp wäter
510 "aldrum nêðdon? Ne inc ænig mon,
"ne leóf ne lâð, beleán mihte
"sorh-fullne sîð; þâ git on sund reón,
"þær git eágor-streám earmum þehton,
"mæton mere-stræta, mundum brugdon,

515 "glidon ofer gâr-seeg; geofon ŷðum weól,
"wintres wylme. Git on wäteres æht
"seofon niht swuncon; he þe ät sunde oferflât,
"häfde mâre mägen. Þâ hine on morgen-tîd
"on Heaðo-ræmas holm up ätbär,
520 "þonon he gesôhte swæsne êðel
"leóf his leódum land Brondinga,
"freoðo-burh fägere, þær he folc âhte,
"burg and beágas. Beót eal wið þe
"sunu Beánstânes sôðe gelæste.
525 "Þonne wêne ic tô þe wyrsan geþinges,
"þeáh þu heáðo-ræsa gehwær dohte,
"grimre gûðe, gif þu Grendles dearst
"niht-longne fyrst neán bîdan!"
Beówulf maðelode, bearn Ecgþeówes:
530 "Hwät þu worn fela, wine mîn Hûnferð,
"beóre druncen ymb Brecan spræce,
"sägdest from his sîde! Sôð ic talige,
"þät ic mere-strengo mâran âhte,
"eafeðo on ŷðum, þonne ænig ôðer man.
535 "Wit þät geewædon eniht-wesende
"and gebeótedon (wæron begen þâ git
"on geogoð-feore) þät wit on gâr-seeg ût
"aldrum nêðdon; and þät geäfndon swâ.
"Häfdon swurd nacod, þâ wit on sund reón,
540 "heard on handa, wit une wið hron-fixas
"werian þôhton. Nô he wiht fram me
"flôd-ŷðum feor fleótan meahte,
"hraðor on holme, nô ic fram him wolde.
"Þâ wit ätsomne on sæ wæron
545 "fîf nihta fyrst, ôð þät une flôd tôdrâf,
"wado weallende, wedera cealdost,
"nîpende niht and norðan wind
"heaðo-grim andhwearf; hreó wæron ŷða.
'Wäs mere-fixa môd onhrêred:

550 "þær me wið lâðum lîc-syrce mîn,
"heard hond-locen, helpe gefremede;
"beado-hrägl broden on breóstum läg,
"golde gegyrwed. Me tô grunde teáh
"fâh feónd-scaða, fäste häfde
555 "grim on grâpe: hwäðre me gyfeðe wearð,
"þät ic aglæcan orde gerælhte,
"hilde-bille; heaðo-ræs fornam
"mihtig mere-deór þurh mîne hand.

X. Beówulf's Contest with Breca.—The Feast.

"Swâ mec gelôme lâð-geteónan
560 "þreátedon þearle. Ic him þênode
"deóran sweorde, swâ hit gedêfe wäs;
"näs hie þære fylle gefeán häfdon,
"mân-fordædlan, þät hie me þêgon,
"symbel ymb-sæton sæ-grunde neáh,
565 "ac on mergenne mêcum wunde
"be [illegible] îfe uppe lægon,
"swe[illegible]dum âswefede, þät syððan nâ
"ymb brontne ford brim-lîðende
"lâde ne letton. Leóht eástan com,
570 "beorht beácen godes; brimu swaðredon,
"þät ic sæ-nässas geseón mihte,
"windige weallas. Wyrd oft nereð
"unfægne eorl, ðonne his ellen deáh!
"Hwäðere me gesælde, þät ic mid sweorde ofslôh
575 "niceras nigene. Nô ic on niht gefrägn
"under heofones hwealf heardran feohtan,
"ne on êg-streámum earmran mannan;
"hwäðere ic fâra feng feore gedîgde,
"sîðes wêrig. Þâ mec sæ ôðbär,
580 "flôd äfter faroðe, on Finna land,

"wadu weallendu. Nô ic wiht fram þe
"swylera searo-nîða secgan hŷrde,
"billa brôgan: Breca næfre git
"ät heaðo-lâce, ne gehwäðer incer
585 "swâ deórlîce dæd gefremede
"fâgum sweordum . . . . . .
". . . . . nô ic þäs gylpe;
"þeáh þu þînum brôðrum tô banan wurde,
"heáfod-mægum; þäs þu in helle scealt
590 "werhðo dreógan, þeáh þîn wit duge.
"Secge ic þe tô sôðe, sunu Ecglâfes,
"þät næfre Grendel swâ fela gryra gefremede,
"atol äglæca ealdre þînum,
"hŷnðo on Heorote, gif þîn hige wære,
595 "sefa swâ searo-grim, swâ þu self talast.
"Ac he hafað onfunden, þät he þâ fæhðe ne þearf,
"atole ecg-þräce eówer leóde
"swîðe onsittan, Sige-Scyldinga;
"nymeð nŷd-bâde, nænegum ârað
600 "leóde Deniga, ac he *on* lust wîgeð,
"swefeð ond sendeð, säcce ne wêneð,
"tô Gâr-Denum. Ac him Geáta sceal
"eafoð and ellen ungeâra nu
"gûðe gebeódan. Gæð eft se þe môt
605 "tô medo môdig, siððan morgen-leóht
"ofer ylda bearn ððres dôgores,
"sunne swegl-wered sûðan scîneð!"
Þâ wäs on sâlum sinces brytta
gamol-feax and gûð-rôf, geóce gelŷfde
610 brego Beorht-Dena; gehŷrde on Beówulfe
folces hyrde fäst-rædne geþôht.
Þær wäs häleða hleahtor; hlyn swynsode,
word wæron wynsume. Eode Wealhþeów forð,
cwên Hrôðgâres, cynna gemyndig,
615 grêtte gold-hroden guman on healle,

and þâ freólîc wîf ful gesealde
ærest Eást-Dena êðel-wearde,
bäd hine blîðne ät þære beór-þege,
leódum leófne; he on lust geþeah
620 symbel and sele-ful, sige-rôf kyning.
Ymb-eode þâ ides Helminga
duguðe and geogoðe dæl æghwylcne;
sinc-fato sealde, ôð þät sæl âlamp,
þät hió Beówulfe, beág-hroden cwên,
625 môde geþungen, medo-ful ätbär;
grêtte Geáta leód, gode þancode
wîs-fäst wordum, þäs þe hire se willa gelamp,
þät heó on ænigne eorl gelŷfde
fyrena frôfre. He þät ful geþeah,
630 wäl-reów wîga ät Wealhþeón,
and þâ gyddode gûðe gefŷsed,
Beówulf maðelode, bearn Ecgþeówes:
"Ic þät hogode, þâ ic on holm gestâh,
"sæ-bât gesät mid mînra secga gedriht,
635 "þät ic ânunga eówra leóda
"willan geworhte, oððe on wäl crunge,
"feónd-grâpum fäst. Ic gefremman sceal
"eorlîc ellen, oððe ende-däg
"on þisse meodu-healle mînne gebîdan."
640 Þam wîfe þâ word wel lîcodon,
gilp-cwide Geátes; eode gold-hroden
freólîcu folc-cwên tô hire freán sittan.
Þâ wäs eft swâ ær inne on healle
þryð-word sprecen, þeód on sælum,
645 sige-folca swêg, ôð þät semninga
sunu Healfdenes sêcean wolde
æfen-räste; wiste *ät* þäm ahlæcan
tô þäm heáh-sele hilde geþinged,
siððan hie sunnan leóht geseón *ne* meahton,
650 oððe nîpende niht ofer calle,

scadu-helma gesceapu scrîðan cwôman,
wan under wolcnum. Werod eall ârâs.
Grêtte þâ *giddum* guma ððerne,
Hrôðgâr Beówulf, and him hæl âbeád,
655 win-ärnes geweald and þät word âcwäð:
"Næfre ic ænegum men ær âlŷfde,
"siððan ic hond and rond hebban mihte,
"þryð-ärn Dena buton þe nu þâ.
"Hafa nu and geheald hûsa sêlest;
660 "gemyne mærðo, mägen-ellen cŷð,
"waca wið wrâðum! Ne bið þe wilna gâd,
"gif þu þät ellen-weorc aldre gedîgest."

XI. The Watch for Grendel.

Þâ him Hrôðgâr gewât mid his häleða gedryht,
eodur Scyldinga ût of healle;
665 wolde wîg-fruma Wealhþeó sêcan,
cwên tô gebeddan. Häfde kyninga wuldor
Grendle tô-geánes, swâ guman gefrungon,
sele-weard âseted: sundor-nytte beheóld
ymb aldor Dena, eoton weard âbeád;
670 hûru Geáta leód georne trûwode
môdgan mägnes, metodes hyldo.
Þâ he him of dyde îsern-byrnan,
helm of hafelan, sealde his hyrsted sweord,
îrena cyst ombiht-þegne,
675 and gehealdan hêt hilde-geatwe.
Gespräc þâ se gôda gylp-worda sum
Beówulf Geáta, ær he on bed stige:
"Nô ic me an here-wæsmum hnâgran talige
"gûð-geweorca, þonne Grendel hine;
680 "forþan ic hine sweorde swebban nelle,
"aldre beneótan, þeáh ic eal mæge.

"Nât he þâra gôda, þät he me on-geán sleá,
"rand geheáwe, þeáh þe he rôf sîe
"nîð-geweorca; ac wit on niht sculon
685 "secge ofersittan, gif he gesêcean dear
"wîg ofer wæpen, and siddan witig god
"on swâ hwäðere hond hâlig dryhten
"mærðo dême, swâ him gemet þince."
Hylde hine þâ heaðo-deór, hleór-bolster onfêng
690 eorles andwlitan; and hine ymb monig
snellîc sæ-rinc sele-reste gebeáh.
Nænig heora þôhte þät he þanon scolde
eft eard-lufan æfre gesêcean,
folc oðde freó-burh, þær he âfêded wäs,
695 ac hie häfdon gefrunen, þät hie ær tô fela micles
in þäm win-sele wäl-deáð fornam,
Denigea leóde. Ac him dryhten forgeaf
wîg-spêda gewiofu, Wedera leódum
frôfor and fultum, þät hie feónd heora
700 þurh ânes räft ealle ofercômon,
selfes mihtum: sôð is gecŷðed,
þät mihtig god manna cynnes
weóld wîde-ferhð. Com on wanre niht
scrîðan sceadu-genga. Sceótend swæfon,
705 þâ þät horn-reced healdan scoldon,
ealle buton ânum. Þät wäs yldum cûð,
þät hie ne môste, þâ metod nolde,
se syn-scaða under sceadu bregdan;
ac he wäccende wrâðum on andan
710 bâd bolgen-môd beadwa geþinges.

XII. Grendel's Raid.

Þâ com of môre under mist-hleoðum
Grendel gongan, godes yrre bär.
Mynte se mân-scaða manna cynnes
sumne besyrwan in sele þam heán;
715 wôd under wolenum, tô þäs þe he win-reced,
gold-sele gumena, gearwost wisse
fättum fâhne. Ne wäs þät forma sîð,
þät he Hrôðgâres hám gesôhte:
næfre he on aldor-dagum ær ne siððan
720 heardran häle, heal-þegnas fand!
Com þâ tô recede rinc sîðian
dreámum bedæled. Duru sôna onarn
fŷr-bendum fäst, syððan he hine folmum hrân;
onbräd þâ bealo-hydig, þâ *he* âbolgen wäs,
725 recedes mûðan. Raðe äfter þon
on fâgne flor feónd treddode,
eode yrre-môd; him of eágum stôd
lîge gelîcost leóht unfäger.
Geseah he in recede rinca manige,
730 swefan sibbe-gedriht samod ätgädere,
mago-rinca heáp: þâ his môd âhlôg,
mynte þät he gedælde, ær þon däg cwôme,
atol aglæca, ânra gehwylces
lîf wið lîce, þâ him âlumpen wäs
735 wist-fylle wên. Ne wäs þät wyrd þâ gen,
þät he mâ môste manna cynnes
þicgean ofer þâ niht. Þryð-swyð beheóld
mæg Higelâces, hû se mân-scaða
under fær-gripum gefaran wolde.
740 Ne þät se aglæca yldan þôhte,
ac he gefêng hraðe forman sîðe
slæpendne rinc, slât unwearnum,

bât bân-locan, blôd êdrum dranc,
syn-snædum swealh: sôna häfde
745 unlyfigendes eal gefeormod
fêt and folma. Forð neár ätstôp,
nam þâ mid handa hige-þihtigne
rinc on räste; ræhte ongeán
feónd mid folme, he onfêng hraðe
750 inwit-þancum and wið earm gesät.
Sôna þät onfunde fyrena hyrde,
þät he ne mêtte middan-geardes
eorðan sceáta on elran men
mund-gripe mâran: he on môde wearð
755 forht on ferhðe, nô þŷ ær fram meahte;
hyge wäs him hin-fûs, wolde on heolster fleón,
sêcan deófla gedräg: ne wäs his drohtoð þær,
swylce he on ealder-dagum ær gemêtte.
Gemunde þâ se gôda mæg Higelâces
760 æfen-spræce, up-lang âstôd
and him fäste wiðfêng. Fingras burston;
eoten wäs ût-weard, eorl furður stôp.
Mynte se mæra, þær he meahte swâ,
wîdre gewindan and on weg þanon
765 fleón on fen-hôpu; wiste his fingra geweald
on grames grâpum. Þät wäs geócor sîð,
þät se hearm-scaða tô Heorute âteáh:
dryht-sele dynede, Denum eallum wearð,
ceaster-bûendum, cênra gehwylcum,
770 eorlum ealu-scerwen. Yrre wæron begen,
rêðe rên-weardas. Reced hlynsode;
þâ wäs wundor micel, þät se win-sele
wiðhäfde heaðo-deórum, þät he on hrusan ne feól.
fäger fold-bold; ac he þäs fäste wäs
775 innan and ûtan îren-bendum
searo-þoncum besmiðod. Þær fram sylle âbeág
medu-benc monig mîne gefræge,

golde geregnad, þær þâ graman wunnon;
þäs ne wêndon ær witan Scyldinga,
780 þät hit â mid gemete manna ænig
betlîc and bân-fâg tôbrecan meahte,
listum tôlûcan, nymðe lîges fäðm
swulge on swaðule. Swêg up âstâg
niwe geneahhe; Norð-Denum stôd
785 atelîc egesa ânra gehwylcum
þâra þe of wealle wôp gehŷrdon,
gryre-leóð galan godes andsacan,
sige-leásne sang, sâr wânigean
helle häftan. Heóld hine tô fäste
790 se þe manna wäs mägene strengest
on þäm däge þysses lîfes.

XIII. Beówulf Tears off Grendel's Arm.

Nolde eorla hleó ænige þinga
þone cwealm-cuman cwicne forlætan,
ne his lîf-dagas leóda ænigum
795 nytte tealde. Þær genehost brägd
eorl Beówulfes ealde lâfe,
wolde freá-drihtnes feorh ealgian
mæres þeódnes, þær hie mealhton swâ;
hie þät ne wiston, þâ hie gewin drugon,
800 heard-hiegende hilde-meegas,
and on healfa gehwone heáwan þôhton,
sâwle sêcan, *þät* þone syn-scaðan
ænig ofer eorðan îrenna cyst,
gûð-billa nân grêtan nolde;
805 ac he sige-wæpnum forsworen häfde,
ecga gehwylcre. Scolde his aldor-gedâl
on þäm däge þysses lîfes
earmlîc wurðan and se ellor-gâst

on feónda geweald feor sîðian.
810 Þâ þät onfunde se þe fela æror
môdes myrðe manna cynne
fyrene gefremede (he *wäs* fâg wið god)
þät him se lîc-homa læstan nolde,
ac hine se môdega mæg Hygelâces
815 häfde be honda; wäs gehwäðer ôðrum
lifigende lâð. Lîc-sâr gebâd
atol äglæca, him on eaxle wearð
syn-dolh sweotol, seonowe onsprungon,
burston bân-locan. Beówulfe wearð
820 gûð-hrêð gyfeðe; scolde Grendel þonan
feorh-seóc fleón under fen-hleoðu,
sêcean wyn-leás wîc; wiste þê geornor,
þät his aldres wäs ende gegongen,
dôgera däg-rîm. Denum eallum wearð
825 äfter þam wäl-ræse willa gelumpen.
Häfde þâ gefælsod, se þe ær feorran com,
snotor and swŷð-ferhð sele Hrôðgâres,
genered wið nîðe. Niht-weorce gefeh,
ellen-mærðum; häfde Eást-Denum
830 Geát-mecga leód gilp gelæsted,
swylce oncŷððe ealle gebêtte,
inwid-sorge, þe hie ær drugon
and for þreá-nŷdum þolian scoldon,
torn unlytel. Þät wäs tâcen sweotol,
835 syððan hilde-deór hond âlegde,
earm and eaxle (þær wäs eal geador
Grendles grâpe) under geápne hrôf.

XIV. The Joy at Heorot.

Þâ wäs on morgen mîne gefræge
ymb þâ gif-healle gûð-rinc monig:
840 fêrdon folc-togan feorran and neán
geond wîd-wegas wundor sceáwian,
lâðes lâstas. Nô his lîf-gedâl
sârlîc þûhte seega ænegum,
þâra þe tîr-leáses trode sceáwode,
845 hû he wêrig-môd on weg þanon,
nîða ofercumen, on nicera mere
fæge and geflŷmed feorh-lâstas bär.
Þær wäs on blôde brim weallende,
atol ŷða geswing eal gemenged
850 hâtan heolfre, heoro-dreóre weól;
deáð-fæge deóg, siððan dreáma leás
in fen-freoðo feorh âlegde
hæðene sâwle, þær him hel onfêng.
Þanon eft gewiton eald-gesîðas,
855 swylce geong manig of gomen-wâðe,
fram mere môdge, mearum rîdan,
beornas on blancum. Þær wäs Beówulfes
mærðo mæned; monig oft gecwäð,
þätte sûð ne norð be sæm tweonum
860 ofer eormen-grund ôðer nænig
under swegles begong sêlra nære
rond-häbbendra, rîces wyrðra.
Ne hie hûru wine-drihten wiht ne lôgon,
glädne Hrôðgâr, ac þät wäs gôd cyning.
865 Hwîlum heaðo-rôfe hleápan lêton,
on geflît faran fealwe mearas,
þær him fold-wegas fägere þûhton,
cystum cûðe; hwîlum cyninges þegn,
guma gilp-hläden gidda gemyndig,

870 se þe eal-fela eald-gesegena
worn gemunde, word ôðer fand
sôðe gebunden: secg eft ongan
sîð Beówulfes snyttrum styrian
and on spêd wrecan spel gerâde,
875 wordum wrixlan, wel-hwylc gecwäð,
þät he fram Sigemunde secgan hŷrde,
ellen-dædum, uncûðes fela,
Wälsinges gewin, wîde sîðas,
þâra þe gumena bearn gearwe ne wiston,
880 fæhðe and fyrene, buton Fitela mid hine,
þonne he swylces hwät secgan wolde
eám his nefan, swâ hie â wæron
ät nîða gehwam nŷd-gesteallan:
häfdon eal-fela eotena cynnes
885 sweordum gesæged. Sigemunde gesprong
äfter deáð-däge dôm unlŷtel,
syððan wîges heard wyrm âcwealde,
hordes hyrde; he under hârne stân,
äðelinges bearn, âna genêðde
890 frêcne dæde; ne wäs him Fitela mid.
Hwäðre him gesælde, þät þät swurd þurhwôd
wrätlîcne wyrm, þät hit on wealle ätstôd,
dryhtlîc îren; draca morðre swealt.
Häfde aglæca elne gegongen,
895 þät he beáh-hordes brûcan môste
selfes dôme: sæ-bât gehlôd,
bär on bearm scipes beorhte frätwa,
Wälses eafera; wyrm hât gemealt.
Se wäs wreccena wîde mærost
900 ofer wer-þeóde, wîgendra hleó
ellen-dædum (he þäs ær onþâh),
siððan Heremôdes hild sweðrode
eafoð and ellen. He mid eotenum wearð
on feónda geweald forð forlâcen,

905 snûde forsended. Hine sorh-wylmas
lemede tô lange, he his leódum wearð,
eallum äðelingum tô aldor-ceare;
swylce oft bemearn ærran mælum
swîð-ferhðes sîð snotor ceorl monig,
910 se þe him bealwa tô bôte gelŷfde,
þät þät þeódnes bearn geþeón scolde,
fäder-äðelum onfôn. folc gehealdan,
hord and hleó-burh. häleða rîce,
êðel Scyldinga. He þær eallum wearð,
915 mæg Higelâces manna cynne,
freóndum gefägra; hine fyren onwôd.

Hwîlum flîtende fealwe stræte
mearum mæton. þâ wäs morgen-leóht
scofen and scynded. Eode sceale monig
920 swîð-hiegende tô sele þam heán,
searo-wundor seón, swylce self cyning,
of brŷd-bûre beáh-horda weard,
tryddode tîr-fäst getrume micle,
cystum gecŷðed, and his cwên mid him
925 medo-stîg gemät mägða hôse.

XV. Hrothgar's Gratulation.

Hrôðgâr maðelode (he tô healle geóng,
stôd on stapole, geseah steápne hrôf
golde fâhne and Grendles hond):
"þisse ansŷne al-wealdan þanc
930 "lungre gelimpe! Fela ic lâðes gebâd,
"grynna ät Grendle: â mäg god wyrcan
"wunder äfter wundre, wuldres hyrde!
"Þät wäs ungeâra, þät ic ænigra me
"weána ne wênde tô wîdan feore

935 "bôte gebîdan þonne blôde fâh
"hûsa sêlest heoro-dreórig stôd;
"weá wîd-scofen witena gehwylcne
"þâra þe ne wêndon, þät hie wîde-ferhð
"leóda land-geweorc lâðum beweredon
940 "scuccum and scinnum. Nu scealc hafað
"þurh drihtnes miht dæd gefremede,
"þe we ealle ær ne meahton
"snyttrum besyrwan. Hwät! þät seegan mäg
"efne swâ hwylc mägða, swâ þone magan cende
945 "äfter gum-cynnum, gyf heó gyt lyfað,
"þät hyre eald-metod êste wære
"bearn-gebyrdo. Nu ic Beówulf
"þec, secg betsta, me for sunu wylle
"freógan on ferhðe; heald forð tela
950 "niwe sibbe. Ne bið þe nænigra gâd
"worolde wilna, þe ic geweald häbbe.
"Ful-oft ic for lässan leán teohhode
"hord-weorðunge hnâhran rince,
"sæmran ät säcce. Þu þe self hafast
955 "dædum gefremed, þät þîn *dôm* lyfað
"âwâ tô aldre. Alwalda þec
"gôde forgylde, swâ he nu gyt dyde!"
Beówulf maðelode, bearn Ecgþeówes:
"We þät ellen-weorc êstum miclum,
960 "feohtan fremedon, frêcne genêðdon
"eafoð uncûðes; ûðe ic swîðor,
"þät þu hine selfne geseón môste,
"feónd on frätewum fyl-wêrigne!
"Ic hine hrädlîce heardan clammum
965 "on wäl-bedde wrîðan þôhte,
"þät he for mund-gripe mînum scolde
"licgean lîf-bysig, butan his lîc swîce;
"ic hine ne mihte, þâ metod nolde,
"ganges getwæman, nô ic him þäs georne ätfealh,

970 "feorh-genîðlan; wäs tô fore-mihtig
"feónd on fêðe. Hwäðere he his folme forlêt
"tô lîf-wraðe lâst weardian,
"earm and eaxle; nô þær ænige swâ þeáh
"feá-sceaft guma frôfre gebohte:
975 "nô þŷ leng leofað lâð-geteóna
"synnum geswenced, ac hyne sâr hafað
"in nŷd-gripe nearwe befongen,
"balwon bendum: þær âbîdan sceal
"maga mâne fâh miclan dômes,
980 "hû him scîr metod scrîfan wille."
Þâ wäs swîgra secg, sunu Ecglâfes,
on gylp-spræce gûð-geweorca,
siddan äðelingas eorles cräfte
ofer heáhne hrôf hand sceáwedon,
985 feóndes fingras, foran æghwylc;
wäs stêde nägla gehwylc, stŷle gelîcost,
hæðenes hand-speru hilde-rinces
egle unheóru; æg-hwylc gecwäð,
þät him heardra nân hrînan wolde
990 îren ær-gôd, þät þäs ahlæcan
blôdge beadu-folme onberan wolde.

XVI. The Banquet and the Gifts.

Þâ wäs hâten hreðe Heort innan-weard
folmum gefrätwod: fela þæra wäs
wera and wîfa, þe þät win-reced,
995 gest-sele gyredon. Gold-fâg scinon
web äfter wagum, wundor-sióna fela
secga gehwylcum þâra þe on swylc starað.
Wäs þät beorhte bold tôbrocen swîðe
eal inne-weard îren-bendum fäst,
1000 heorras tôhlidene; hrôf âna genäs

ealles ansund, þâ se aglæca,
fyren-dædum fâg on fleám gewand,
aldres or-wêna. Nô þät ŷðe byð
tô befleónne (fremme se þe wille!)
1005 ac gesacan sceal sâwl-berendra
nŷde genŷdde niðða bearna
grund-bûendra gearwe stôwe,
þær his lîc-homa leger-bedde fäst
swefeð äfter symle. Þâ wäs sæl and mæl,
1010 þät tô healle gang Healfdenes sunu;
wolde self cyning symbel þicgan.
Ne gefrägen ic þâ mægðe mâran weorode
ymb hyra sinc-gyfan sêl gebæran.
Bugon þâ tô bence blæd-âgende,
1015 fylle gefægon. Fägere geþægon
medo-ful manig mâgas † þâra
swîð-hicgende on sele þam heán,
Hrôðgâr and Hrôðulf. Heorot innan wäs
freóndum âfylled; nalles fâcen-stafas
1020 Þeód-Scyldingas þenden fremedon.
Forgeaf þâ Beówulfe bearn Healfdenes
segen gyldenne sigores tô leáne,
hroden hilte-cumbor, helm and byrnan;
mære mâððum-sweord manige gesâwon
1025 beforan beorn beran. Beówulf geþah
ful on flette; nô he þære feoh-gyfte
for sceótendum scamigan þorfte,
ne gefrägn ic freóndlîcor feówer mâdmas
golde gegyrede gum-manna fela
1030 in ealo-bence ôðrum gesellan.
Ymb þäs helmes hrôf heáfod-beorge
wîrum bewunden walan ûtan heóld,
þät him fêla lâfe frêcne ne meahton
scûr-heard sceððan, þonne scyld-freca
1035 ongeán gramum gangan scolde.

Hêht þâ eorla hleó eahta mearas,
fäted-hleóre, on flet teón
in under eoderas; þâra ânum stôd
sadol searwum fâh since gewurðad,
1040 þät wäs hilde-setl heáh-cyninges,
þonne sweorda gelâc sunu Healfdenes
efnan wolde; næfre on ôre läg
wîd-cûðes wîg, þonne walu feóllon.
And þâ Beówulfe bega gehwäðres
1045 eodor Ingwina onweald geteáh,
wiega and wæpna; hêt hine wel brûcan.
Swâ manlîce mære þeóden,
hord-weard häleða heaðo-ræsas geald
mearum and mâdmum, swâ hŷ næfre man lyhð,
1050 se þe secgan wile sôð äfter rihte.

XVII. Song of Hrothgar's Poet — The Lay of Hnaef and Hengest.

Þâ gyt æghwylcum eorla drihten
þâra þe mid Beówulfe brim-lâde teáh,
on þære medu-bence mâððum gesealde,
yrfe-lâfe, and þone ænne hêht
1055 golde forgyldan, þone þe Grendel ær
mâne âcwealde, swâ he hyra mâ wolde,
nefne him witig god wyrd forstôde
and þäs mannes môd: metod eallum weóld
gumena cynnes, swâ he nu git dêð;
1060 forþan bið andgit æghwær sêlest,
ferhðes fore-þanc! fela sceal gebîdan
leófes and lâðes, se þe longe her
on þyssum win-dagum worolde brûceð.
Þær wäs sang and swêg samod ätgädere

1065 fore Healfdenes hilde-wîsan,
gomen-wudu grêted, gid oft wrecen,
þonne heal-gamen Hrôðgâres scôp
äfter medo-bence mænan scolde
Finnes eaferum, þâ hie se fær begeat:
1070 "Häleð Healfdenes, Hnäf Scyldinga,
"in Fr . . es wäle feallan scolde.
"Ne hûru Hildeburh hêrian þorfte
"eotena treówe: unsynnum wearð
"beloren leófum ät þam lind-plegan
1075 "bearnum and brôðrum; hie on gebyrd hruron
"gâre wunde; þät wäs geômuru ides.
"Nalles hôlinga Hôces dôhtor
"meotod-sceaft bemearn, syððan morgen com,
"þâ heó under swegle geseón mealhte
1080 "morðor-bealo mâga, þær heó ær mæste heóld
"worolde wynne: wîg ealle fornam
"Finnes þegnas, nemne feáum ânum,
"þät he ne mehte on þäm meðel-stede
"wîg Hengeste wiht gefeohtan,
1085 "ne þâ weá-lâfe wîge forþringan
"þeódnes þegne; ac hig him geþingo budon,
"þät hie him ôðer flet eal gerŷmdon,
"healle and heáh-setl, þät hie healfre geweald
"wið eotena bearn âgan môston,
1090 "and ät feoh-gyftum Folcwaldan sunu
"dôgra gehwylce Dene weorðode,
"Hengestes heáp hringum wenede,
"efne swâ swîðe sinc-gestreónum
"fättan goldes, swâ he Fresena cyn
1095 "on beór-sele byldan wolde.
"Þâ hie getrûwedon on twâ healfa
"fäste frioðu-wære; Fin Hengeste
"elne unflitme âðum benemde,
"þät he þâ weá-lâfe weotena dôme

1100 "ârum heolde, þät þær ænig mon
"wordum ne worcum wære ne bræce,
"ne þurh inwit-searo æfre gemænden,
"þeáh hie hira beág-gyfan banan folgedon
"þeóden-leáse, þâ him swâ geþearfod wäs:
1105 "gyf þonne Frysna hwylc frêcnan spræce
"þäs morðor-hetes myndgiend wære,
"þonne hit sweordes ecg syððan scolde.
"Âð wäs geäfned and iege gold
"âhäfen of horde. Here-Scyldinga
1110 "betst beado-rinca wäs on bæl gearu;
"ät þäm âde wäs êð-gesŷne
"swât-fâh syrce, swŷn eal-gylden,
"eofer îren-heard, äðeling manig
"wundum âwyrded; sume on wäle crungon.
1115 "Hêt þâ Hildeburh ât Hnäfes âde
"hire selfre sunu sweoloðe befästan,
"bân-fatu bärnan and on bæl dôn.
"Earme on eaxle ides gnornode,
"geômrode giddum; gûð-rinc âstâh.
1120 "Wand tô wolcnum wäl-fŷra mæst,
"hlynode for hlâwe; hafelan multon,
"ben-geato burston, þonne blôd ätsprane
"lâð-bite lîces. Lîg ealle forswealg,
"gæsta gîfrost, þâra þe þær gûð fornam
1125 "bega folces; wäs hira blæd scacen.

XVIII. The Gleeman's Tale is Ended.

"Gewiton him þâ wîgend wîca neósian,
"freóndum befeallen Frysland geseón,
"hâmas and heá-burh. Hengest þâ gyt
"wäl-fâgne winter wunode mid Finne
1130 "*ealles* unhlitme; eard gemunde,

"þeáh þe he *ne* meahte on mere drîfan
"hringed-stefnan; holm storme weól,
"won wîð winde; winter ŷðe beleác
"îs-gebinde ôð þät ôðer com
1135 "geâr in geardas, swâ nu gyt dêð,
"þâ þe syngales sêle bewitiað,
"wuldor-torhtan weder. Þâ wäs winter scacen,
"fäger foldan bearm; fundode wrecca,
"gist of geardum; he tô gyrn-wräce
1140 "swîðor þôhte, þonne tô sæ-lâde,
"gif he torn-gemôt þurhteón mihte,
"þät he eotena bearn inne gemunde.
"Swâ he ne forwyrnde worold-rædenne,
"þonne him Hûnlâfing hilde-leóman,
1145 "billa sêlest, on bearm dyde:
"þäs wæron mid eotenum ecge cûðe.
"Swylce ferhð-frecan Fin eft begeat
"sweord-bealo slîðen ät his selfes hâm,
"siddan grimne gripe Gûðlâf ond Ôslâf
1150 "äfter sæ-sîðe sorge mændon,
"ätwiton weána dæl; ne meahte wäfre môd
"forhabban in hreðre. Þâ wäs heal hroden
"feónda feorum, swilce Fin slägen,
"cyning on corðre, and seó cwên numen.
1155 "Sceótend Scyldinga tô scypum feredon
"eal in-gestealdcorð-cyninges,
"swylce hie ät Finnes hâm findan meahton
"sigla searo-gimma. Hie on sæ-lâde
"drihtlîce wîf tô Denum feredon,
1160 "læddon tô leódum." Leóð wäs âsungen,
gleó-mannes gyd. Gamen eft âstâh,
beorhtode benc-swêg, byrelas sealdon
wîn of wunder-fatum. Þâ cwom Wealhþeó forð
gân under gyldnum beáge, þær þâ gôdan twegen
1165 sæton suhter-gefäderan; þâ gyt wäs hiera sib ätgädere

ælghwylc ôðrum trŷwe. Swylce þær Hûnferð þyle
ät fôtum sät freán Scyldinga: gehwylc hiora his ferhðe treówde,
þät he häfde môd micel, þeáh þe he his mâgum nære
ârfäst ät ecga gelâcum. Spräc þâ ides Scyldinga:
1170 "Onfôh þissum fulle, freó-drihten mîn,
"sinces brytta; þu on sælum wes,
"gold-wine gumena, and tô Geátum sprec
"mildum wordum! Swâ sceal man dôn.
"Beó wið Geátas gläd, geofena gemyndig;
1175 "neán and feorran þu nu *friðu* hafast.
"Me man sägde, þät þu þe for sunu wolde
"here-rinc habban. Heorot is gefælsod,
"beáh-sele beorhta; brûc þenden þu môte
"manigra mêda and þînum magum læf
1180 "folc and rîce, þonne þu forð scyle
"metod-sceaft seón. Ic mînne can
"glädne Hrôðulf, þät he þâ geogoðe wile
"ârum healdan, gyf þu ær þonne he,
"wine Scildinga, worold oflætest;
1185 "wêne ic, þät he mid gôde gyldan wille
"uncran eaferan, gif he þät eal gemon,
"hwät wit tô willan and tô word-myndum
"umbor wesendum ær ârna gefremedon."
Hwearf þâ bî bence, þær hyre byre wæron,
1190 Hrêðrîc and Hrôðmund, and häleða bearn,
giogoð ätgädere; þær se gôda sät
Beówulf Geáta be þæm gebrôðrum twæm.

XIX.

Beówulf's Jewelled Collar. The Heroes Rest.

Him wäs ful boren and freónd-laðu
wordum bewägned and wunden gold
1195 êstum geeáwed, earm-hreáde twâ,
hrägl and hringas, heals-beága mæst
þâra þe ic on foldan gefrägen häbbe.
Nænigne ic under swegle sêlran hŷrde
hord-mâððum häleða, syððan Hâma ätwäg
1200 tô þære byrhtan byrig Brosinga mene,
sigle and sinc-fät, searo-nîðas fealh
Eormenrîces, geceás êcne ræd.
Þone hring häfde Higelâc Geáta,
nefa Swertinges, nŷhstan sîðe,
1205 siððan he under segne sinc ealgode,
wäl-reáf werede; hyne Wyrd fornam,
syððan he for wlenco weán âhsode,
fæhðe tô Frysum; he þâ frätwe wäg,
eorclan-stânas ofer ŷða ful,
1210 rîce þeóden, he under rande gecranc;
gehwearf þâ in Francna fäðm feorh cyninges,
breóst-gewædu and se beáh somod:
wyrsan wîg-frecan wäl reáfedon
äfter gûð-sceare, Geáta leóde
1215 hreâ-wîc heóldon. Heal swêge onfêng.
Wealhþeó maðelode, heó fore þäm werede spräc:
"Brûc þisses beáges, Beówulf, leófa
"hyse, mid hæle, and þisses hrägles neót
"þeód-gestreóna, and geþeóh tela,
1220 "cen þec mid cräfte and þyssum cnyhtum wes
"lâra lîðe! ic þe þäs leán geman.
"Hafast þu gefêred, þät þe feor and neáh

"ealne wîde-ferhð weras ehtigað,
"efne swâ sîde swâ sæ bebûgeð
1225 "windige weallas. Wes, þenden þu lifige,
"äðeling eádig! ic þe an tela
"sinc-gestreóna. Beó þu suna mînum
"dædum gedêfe dreám healdende!
"Her is æghwylc eorl ôðrum getrŷwe,
1230 "môdes milde, man-drihtne hold,
"þegnas syndon geþwære, þeód eal gearo:
"druncne dryht-guman, dôð swâ ic bidde!"
Eode þâ tô setle. Þær wäs symbla cyst,
druncon wîn weras: wyrd ne cûðon,
1235 geó-sceaft grimme, swâ hit âgangen wearð
eorla manegum, syððan æfen cwom
and him Hrôðgâr gewât tô hofe sînum,
rîce tô räste. Reced weardode
unrîm eorla, swâ hie oft ær dydon:
1240 benc-þelu beredon, hit geond-bræded wearð
beddum and bolstrum. Beór-scealca sum
fûs and fæge flet-räste gebeág.
Setton him tô heáfdum hilde-randas,
bord-wudu beorhtan; þær on bence wäs
1245 ofer äðelinge ŷð-gesêne
heaðo-steápa helm, hringed byrne,
þrec-wudu þrymlîc. Wäs þeáw hyra,
þät hie oft wæron an wîg gearwe,
ge ät hâm ge on herge, ge gehwäðer þâra
1250 efne swylce mæla, swylce hira man-dryhtne
þearf gesælde; wäs seó þeód tilu.

XX.

Grendel's Mother Attacks the Ring-Danes.

Sigon þâ tô slæpe. Sum sâre angeald
æfen-räste, swâ him ful-oft gelamp,
siddan gold-sele Grendel warode,
1255 unriht äfnde, ôd þät ende becwom,
swylt äfter synnum. Þät gesŷne wearð,
wîd-cûð werum, þätte wrecend þâ gyt
lifde äfter lâdum, lange þrage
äfter gûð-ceare; Grendles môdor,
1260 ides aglæc-wîf yrmðe gemunde,
se þe wäter-egesan wunian scolde,
cealde streámas, siddan Cain wearð
tô ecg-banan ângan brêðer,
fäderen-mæge; he þâ fâg gewât,
1265 morðre gemearcod man-dreám fleón,
wêsten warode. Þanon wôc fela
geósceaft-gâsta; wäs þæra Grendel sum,
heoro-wearh hetelîc, se ät Heorote fand
wäccendne wer wîges bîdan,
1270 þær him aglæca ät-græpe wearð;
hwäðre he gemunde mägenes strenge,
gim-fäste gife, þe him god sealde,
and him tô anwaldan âre gelŷfde,
frôfre and fultum: þŷ he þone feónd ofercwom,
1275 gehnægde helle gâst: þâ he heán gewât,
dreáme bedæled deád-wîc seón,
man-cynnes feónd. And his môdor þâ gyt
gîfre and galg-môd gegân wolde
sorh-fulne sîð, suna deád wrecan.
1280 Com þâ tô Heorote, þær Hring-Dene
geond þät säld swæfun. Þâ þær sôna wearð
ed-hwyrft eorlum, siddan inne fealh

Grendles môdor; wäs se gryre lässa
efne swâ micle, swâ bið mägða cräft,
1285 wîg-gryre wîfes be wæpned-men,
þonne heoru bunden, hamere geþuren,
sweord swâte fâh swîn ofer helme,
ecgum dyhtig andweard scired.
Þâ wäs on healle heard-ecg togen,
1290 sweord ofer setlum, sîd-rand manig
hafen handa fäst; helm ne gemunde,
byrnan sîde, þe hine se brôga angeat.
Heó wäs on ôfste, wolde ût þanon
feore beorgan, þâ heó onfunden wäs;
1295 hraðe heó äðelinga ânne häfde
fäste befangen, þâ heó tô fenne gang;
se wäs Hrôðgâre hälcða leófost
on gesîðes hâd be sæm tweonum,
rîce rand-wîga, þone þe heó on räste âbreát,
1300 blæd-fästne beorn. Näs Beówulf þær,
ac wäs ôðer in ær geteohhod
äfter mâððum-gife mærum Geáte.
Hreám wearð on Heorote. Heó under heolfre genam
cûðe folme; cearu wäs geniwod
1305 geworden in wîcum: ne wäs þät gewrixle til,
þät hie on bâ healfa biegan scoldon
freónda feorum. Þâ wäs frôd cyning,
hâr hilde-rinc, on hreón môde,
syððan he aldor-þegn unlyfigendne,
1310 þone deórestan deádne wisse.
Hraðe wäs tô bûre Beówulf fetod,
sigor-eádig secg. Samod ær-däge
eode eorla sum, äðele cempa
self mid gesîðum, þær se snottra bâd,
1315 hwäðre him al-walda æfre wille
äfter weá-spelle wyrpe gefremman.
Gang þâ äfter flôre fyrd-wyrðe man

mid his hand-scale (heal-wudu dynede)
þät he þone wîsan wordum hnægde
1320 freán Ingwina; frägn gif him wære
äfter neód-laðu niht getæse.

XXI. Sorrow at Heorot: Æschere's Death.

Hrôðgâr maðelode, helm Scildinga:
"Ne frin þu äfter sælum! Sorh is geniwod
"Denigea leódum. Deád is Äsc-here,
1325 "Yrmenlâfes yldra brôðor,
"mîn rûn-wita and mîn ræd-bora,
"eaxl-gestealla, þonne we on orlege
"hafelan weredon, þonne hniton fêðan,
"eoferas cnysedan; swylc scolde eorl wesan
1330 "*äðeling* ær-gôd, swylc Äsc-here wäs.
"Wearð him on Heorote tô hand-banan
"wäl-gæst wäfre; ic ne wât hwäder
"atol æse wlanc eft-sîðas teáh,
"fylle gefrægnod. Heó þâ fæhðe wräc,
1335 "þe þu gystran niht Grendel cwealdest
"þurh hæstne hâd heardum clammum,
"forþan he tô lange leóde mîne
"wanode and wyrde. He ät wîge gecrang
"ealdres scyldig, and nu ôðer cwom
1340 "mihtig mân-scaða, wolde hyre mæg wrecan,
"ge feor hafað fæhðe gestæled,
"þäs þe þincean mäg þegne monegum,
"se þe äfter sinc-gyfan on sefan greóteð,
"hreðer-bealo hearde; nu seó hand ligeð,
1345 "se þe eów wel-hwylcra wilna dohte.
"Ic þät lond-bûend leóde mîne
"sele-rædende secgan hŷrde,
"þät hie gesâwon swylce twegen

"micle mearc-stapan môras healdan,
1350 "ellor-gæstas: þæra ôðer wäs,
"þäs þe hie gewislîcost gewitan mealhton
"idese onlîcnes, ôðer earm-sceapen
"on weres wästmum wräc-lâstas träd,
"näfne he wäs mâra þonne ænig man ôðer,
1355 "þone on geâr-dagum Grendel nemdon
"fold-bûende: nô hie fäder cunnon,
"hwäðer him ænig wäs ær âcenned
"dyrnra gâsta. Hie dŷgel lond
"warigeað, wulf-hleoðu, windige nässas,
1360 "frêene fen-gelâd, þær fyrgen-streám
"under nässa genipu niðer gewîteð,
"flôd under foldan; nis þät feor heonon
"mîl-gemearces, þät se mere standeð,
"ofer þäm hongiað hrînde bearwas,
1365 "wudu wyrtum fäst, wäter oferhelmað.
"Þær mäg nihta gehwäm nîð-wundor seón,
"fŷr on flôde; nô þäs frôd leofað
"gumena bearna, þät þone grund wite;
"þeáh þe hæð-stapa hundum geswenced,
1370 "heorot hornum trum holt-wudu sêce,
"feorran geflŷmed, ær he feorh seleð,
"aldor on ôfre, ær he in wille,
"hafelan *hŷdan*. Nis þät heóru stôw:
"þonon ŷð-geblond up âstîgeð
1375 "won tô wolcnum, þonne wind styreð
"lâð gewidru, ôð þät lyft drysmað,
"roderas reótað. Nu is ræd gelang
"eft ät þe ânum! Eard git ne const,
"frêene stôwe, þær þu findan miht
1380 "sinnigne secg: sêc gif þu dyrre!
"Ic þe þâ fæhðe feó leánige,
"eald-gestreónum, swâ ic ær dyde,
"wundnum golde, gyf þu on weg cymest."

XXII.

Beówulf Seeks the Monster in the Haunts of the Nixies.

Beówulf maðelode, bearn Ecgþeówes:
1385 "Ne sorga, snotor guma! sêlre bið æghwäm,
"þät he his freónd wrece, þonne he fela murne;
"ûre æghwylc sceal ende gebîdan
"worolde lîfes; wyrce se þe môte
"dômes ær deáðe! þät bið driht-guman
1390 "unlifgendum äfter sêlest.
"Ârîs, rîces weard; uton hraðe fêran,
"Grendles mâgan gang sceáwigan!
"Ic hit þe gehâte: nô he on helm losað,
"ne on foldan fäðm, ne on fyrgen-holt,
1395 "ne on gyfenes grund, gâ þær he wille.
"Þys dôgor þu geþyld hafa
"weána gehwylces, swâ ic þe wêne tô!"
Âhleóp þâ se gomela, gode þancode,
mihtigan drihtne, þäs se man gespräc.
1400 Þâ wäs Hrôðgâre hors gebæted,
wicg wunden-feax. Wîsa fengel
geatolîc gengde; gum-fêða stôp
lind-häbbendra. Lâstas wæron
äfter wald-swaðum wîde gesŷne,
1405 gang ofer grundas; gegnum fôr þâ
ofer myrcan môr, mago-þegna bär
þone sêlestan sâwol-leásne,
þâra þe mid Hrôðgâre hâm eahtode.
Ofer-eode þâ äðelinga bearn
1410 steáp stân-hliðo, stîge nearwe,
enge ân-paðas, un-cûð gelâd,
neowle nässas, nicor-hûsa fela;
he feára sum beforan gengde

wîsra monna, wong sceáwian,
1415 ôð þät he færinga fyrgen-beámas
ofer hârne stân hleonian funde,
wyn-leásne wudu; wäter under stôd
dreórig and gedrêfed. Denum eallum wäs,
winum Scyldinga, weorce on môde,
1420 tô geþolianne þegne monegum,
oncyð eorla gehwäm, syððan Äsc-heres
on þam holm-clife hafelan mêtton.
Flôd blôde weól (folc tô sægon)
hâtan heolfre. Horn stundum song
1425 fûslîc *fyrd*-leóð. Fêða eal gesät;
gesâwon þâ äfter wätere wyrm-cynnes fela,
sellîce sæ-dracan sund cunnian,
swylce on näs-hleoðum nicras licgean,
þâ on undern-mæl oft bewitigað
1430 sorh-fulne sîð on segl-râde,
wyrmas and wil-deór; hie on weg hruron
bitere and gebolgne, bearhtm ongeâton,
gûð-horn galan. Sumne Geáta leód
of flân-bogan feores getwæfde,
1435 ŷð-gewinnes, þät him on aldre stôd
here-sträl hearda; he on holme wäs
sundes þe sænra, þe hyne swylt fornam.
Hräðe wearð on ŷðum mid eofer-spreótum
heoro-hôcyhtum hearde genearwod,
1440 nîða genæged and on näs togen
wundorlîc wæg-bora; weras sceáwedon
gryrelîcne gist. Gyrede hine Beówulf
eorl-gewædum, nalles for ealdre mearn:
scolde here-byrne hondum gebroden,
1445 sîd and searo-fâh, sund cunnian,
seó þe bân-côfan beorgan cûðe,
þät him hilde-grâp hreðre ne mihte,
eorres inwit-feng, aldre gescedðan;

ac se hwîta helm hafelan werede,
1450 se þe mere-grundas mengan scolde,
sêcan sund-gebland since geweorðad,
befongen freá-wrâsnum, swâ hine fyrn-dagum
worhte wæpna smið, wundrum teóde,
besette swîn-lîcum, þät hine syððan nô
1455 brond ne beado-mêcas bîtan ne meahton.
Näs þät þonne mætost mägen-fultuma,
þät him on þearfe lâh þyle Hrôðgâres;
wäs þäm häft-mêce Hrunting nama,
þät wäs ân foran eald-gestreóna;
1460 ecg wäs îren, âter-tânum fâh,
âhyrded heaðo-swâte; næfre hit ät hilde ne swâc
manna ængum þâra þe hit mid mundum bewand,
se þe gryre-sîðas gegân dorste,
folc-stede fâra; näs þät forma sîð,
1465 þät hit ellen-weorc äfnan scolde.
Hûru ne gemunde mago Ecglâfes
eafoðes cräftig, þät he ær gespräc
wîne druncen, þâ he þäs wæpnes onlâh
sêlran sweord-frecan: selfa ne dorste
1470 under ŷða gewin aldre genêðan,
driht-scype dreógan; þær he dôme forleás,
ellen-mærðum. Ne wäs þäm ôðrum swâ,
syððan he hine tô gûðe gegyred häfde.

XXIII. The Battle with the Water-Drake.

Beówulf maðelode, bearn Ecgþeówes:
1475 "geþenc nu, se mæra maga Healfdenes,
"snottra fengel, nu ic eom sîðes fûs,
"gold-wine gumena, hwät wit geó spræcon,
"gif ic ät þearfe þînre scolde
"aldre linnan, þät þu me â wære

1480 "forð-gewitenum on fäder stäle;
"wes þu mund-bora mînum mago-þegnum,
"hond-gesellum, gif mec hild nime:
"swylce þu þâ mâdmas, þe þu me sealdest,
"Hrôðgâr leófa, Higelâce onsend.
1485 "Mäg þonne on päm golde ongitan Geáta dryhten,
"geseón sunu Hrêðles, þonne he on þät sinc starað,
"þät ic gum-cystum gôdne funde
"beága bryttan, breác þonne môste.
"And þu Hûnferð læt ealde lâfe,
1490 "wrätlîc wæg-sweord wîd-cûðne man
"heard-ecg habban; ic me mid Hruntinge
"dôm gewyrce, oððe mec deáð nimeð."
Äfter þæm wordum Weder-Geáta leód
êfste mid elne, nalas andsware
1495 bîdan wolde; brim-wylm onfêng
hilde-rince. Þâ wäs hwîl däges,
ær he þone grund-wong ongytan mehte.
Sôna þät onfunde, se þe flôda begong
heoro-gîfre beheóld hund missera,
1500 grim and grædig, þät þær gumena sum
äl-wihta eard ufan cunnode.
Grâp þâ tôgeánes, gûð-rinc gefêng
atolan clommum; nô þŷ ær in gescôd
hâlan lîce: hring ûtan ymb-bearh,
1505 þät heó þone fyrd-hom þurh-fôn ne mihte,
locene leoðo-syrcan lâðan fingrum.
Bär þâ seó brim-wylf, þâ heó tô botme com,
hringa þengel tô hofe sînum,
swâ he ne mihte nô (he þäs môdig wäs)
1510 wæpna gewealdan, ac hine wundra þäs fela
swencte on sunde, sæ-deór monig
hilde-tuxum here-syrcan bräc,
êhton aglæcan. Þâ se eorl ongeat,
þät he *in* nið-sele nât-hwylcum wäs,

1515 þær him nænig wäter wihte ne sceðede,
ne him for hrôf-sele hrînan ne mehte
fær-gripe flôdes: fŷr-leóht geseah,
blâcne leóman beorhte scînan.
Ongeat þâ se gôda grund-wyrgenne,
1520 mere-wîf mihtig; mägen-ræs forgeaf
hilde-bille, hond swenge ne ofteáh,
þät hire on hafelan hring-mæl âgôl
grædig gûð-leóð. Þâ se gist onfand,
þät se beado-leóma bîtan nolde,
1525 aldre sceððan, ac seó ecg geswâc
þeódne ät þearfe: þolode ær fela
hond-gemôta, helm oft gescär,
fæges fyrd-hrägl: þät wäs forma sîð
deórum mâðme, þät his dôm âläg.
1530 Eft wäs ân-ræd, nalas elnes lät,
mærða gemyndig mæg Hygelâces;
wearp þâ wunden-mæl wrättum gebunden
yrre oretta, þät hit on eorðan läg,
stîð and stŷl-ecg; strenge getrûwode,
1535 mund-gripe mägenes. Swâ sceal man dôn,
þonne he ät gûðe gegân þenceð
longsumne lof, nâ ymb his lîf cearað.
Gefêng þâ be eaxle (nalas for fæhðe mearn)
Gûð-Geáta leód Grendles môdor;
1540 brägd þâ beadwe heard, þâ he gebolgen wäs,
feorh-genîðlan, þät heó on flet gebeáh.
Heó him eft hraðe and-leán forgeald
grimman grâpum and him tôgeánes fêng;
oferwearp þâ wêrig-môd wîgena strengest,
1545 fêðe-cempa, þät he on fylle wearð.
Ofsät þâ þone sele-gyst and hyre seaxe geteáh,
brâd *and* brûn-ecg wolde hire bearn wrecan,
ângan eaferan. Him on eaxle läg
breóst-net broden; þät gebearh feore,

1550 wið ord and wið ecge ingang forstôd.
Häfde þâ forsîðod sunu Ecgþeówes
under gynne grund, Geáta cempa,
nemne him heaðo-byrne helpe gefremede,
here-net hearde, and hâlig god
1555 geweóld wîg-sigor, witig drihten;
rodera rædend hit on ryht gescêd,
ŷðelîce syððan he eft âstôd.

XXIV. Beówulf Slays the Sprite.

Geseah þâ on searwum sige-eádig bil,
eald sweord eotenisc eegum þyhtig,
1560 wîgena weorð-mynd: þät *wäs* wæpna cyst,
bûton hit wäs mâre þonne ænig mon ôðer
tô beadu-lâce ätberan meahte
gôd and geatolîc giganta geweorc.
He gefêng þâ fetel-hilt, freca Scildinga,
1565 hreóh and heoro-grim hring-mæl gebrägd,
aldres orwêna, yrringa slôh,
þät hire wið halse heard grâpode,
bân-hringas bräc, bil eal þurh-wôd
fægne flæsc-homan, heó on flet geerong;
1570 sweord wäs swâtig, seeg weorce gefeh.
Lixte se leóma, leóht inne stôd,
efne swâ of hefene hâdre scîneð
rodores candel. He äfter reede wlât,
hwearf þâ be wealle, wæpen hafenade
1575 heard be hiltûm Higelâces þegn,
yrre and ân-ræd. Näs seó eeg fracod
hilde-rince, ac he hraðe wolde
Grendle forgyldan gûð-ræsa fela
þâra þe he geworhte tô West-Denum

1580 oftor micle þonne on ænne sîð,
þonne he Hrôðgâres heorð-geneátas
slôh on sweofote, slæpende frät
folces Denigea fŷf-tyne men
and ôðer swylc ût of-ferede,
1585 lâðlîcu lâc. He him päs leán forgeald,
rêðe cempa, tô päs þe he on räste geseah
gûð-wêrigne Grendel licgan,
aldor-leásne, swâ him ær gescôd
hild ät Heorote; hrâ wîde sprong,
1590 syððan he äfter deáðe drepe þrowade,
heoro-sweng heardne, and hine þâ heáfde becearf.
Sôna þät gesâwon snottre ceorlas,
þâ þe mid Hrôðgâre on holm wliton,
þät wäs ŷð-geblond eal gemenged,
1595 brim blôde fâh: blonden-feaxe
gomele ymb gôdne ongeador spræcon,
þät hig päs äðelinges eft ne wêndon,
þät he sige-hrêðig sêcean côme
mærne þeóden; þâ päs monige gewearð,
1600 þät hine seó brim-wylf âbroten häfde.
Þâ com nôn däges. Näs ofgeâfon
hwate Scyldingas; gewât him hâm þonon
gold-wine gumena. Gistas sêtan,
môdes seóce, and on mere staredon,
1605 wiston and ne wêndon, þät hie heora wine-drihten
selfne gesâwon. Þâ þät sweord ongan
äfter heaðo-swâte hilde-gicelum
wig-bil wanian; þät wäs wundra sum,
þät hit eal gemealt îse gelîcost,
1610 þonne forstes bend fäder onlæteð,
onwindeð wäl-râpas, se þe geweald hafað
sæla and mæla; þät is sôð metod.
Ne nom he in þæm wîcum, Weder-Geáta leód,
mâðm-æhta mâ, þêh he þær monige geseah,

1615 bûton þone hafelan and þâ hilt somod,
since fâge; sweord ær gemealt,
forbarn broden mæl: wäs þät blôd tô þäs hât,
ættren ellor-gæst, se þær inne swealt.
Sôna wäs on sunde, se þe ær ät säcce gebâd
1620 wîg-hryre wrâðra, wäter up þurh-deáf;
wæron ŷð-gebland eal gefælsod,
eácne eardas, þâ se ellor-gâst
oflêt lîf-dagas and þâs lænan gesceaft.
Com þâ tô lande lid-manna helm
1625 swîð-môd swymman, sæ-lâce gefeah,
mägen-byrðenne þâra þe he him mid häfde.
Eodon him þâ tôgeánes, gode þancodon,
þryðlîc þegna heáp, þeódnes gefêgon,
þäs þe hi hyne gesundne geseón môston.
1630 Þâ wäs of þäm hrôran helm and byrne
lungre âlŷsed: lagu drusade,
wäter under wolenum, wâl-dreóre fâg.
Fêrdon forð þonon fêðe-lâstum
ferhðum fägne, fold-weg mæton,
1635 cûðe stræte; cyning-balde men
from þäm holm-clife hafelan bæron
earfoðlîce heora æghwäðrum
fela-môdigra: feówer scoldon
on ðäm wäl-stenge weorcum geferian
1640 tô þäm gold-sele Grendles heáfod,
ôð þät semninga tô sele cômon
frome fyrd-hwate feôwer-tyne
Geáta gongan; gum-dryhten mid
môdig on gemonge meodo-wongas träd.
1645 Þâ com in gân ealdor þegna,
dæd-cêne mon dôme gewurðad,
häle hilde-deór, Hrôðgâr grêtan:
Þâ wäs be feaxe on flet boren
Grendles heáfod, þær guman druncon,

1650 egeslîc for eorlum and þære idese mid:
wlite-seón wrätlîc weras onsâwon.

XXV. Hrothgar's Gratitude: He Discourses.

Beówulf maðelode, bearn Ecgþeôwes:
"Hwät! we þe þâs sæ-lâc, sunu Healfdenes,
"leód Scyldinga, lustum brôhton,
1655 "tîres tô tâcne, þe þu her tô lôcast.
"Ic þät unsôfte ealdre gedîgde:
"wîge under wätere weorc genêðde
"earfoðlîce, ät-rihte wäs
"gûð getwæfed, nymðe mec god scylde.
1660 "Ne meahte ic ät hilde mid Hruntinge
"wiht gewyrcan, þeáh þät wæpen duge,
"ac me geûðe ylda waldend,
"þät ic on wage geseah wlitig hangian
"eald sweord eácen (oftost wîsode
1665 "winigea leásum) þät ic þŷ wæpne gebräd.
"Ofslôh þâ ät þære säcce (þâ me sæl âgeald)
"hûses hyrdas. Þâ þät hilde-bil
"forbarn, brogden mæl, swâ þät blôd gesprang,
"hâtost heaðo-swâta: ic þät hilt þanan
1670 "feóndum ätferede; fyren-dæda wräc,
"deáð-cwealm Denigea, swâ hit gedêfe wäs.
"Ic hit þe þonne gehâte, þät þu on Heorote môst
"sorh-leás swefan mid þînra secga gedryht,
"and þegna gehwylc þînra leóda,
1675 "duguðe and iogoðe, þät þu him ondrædan ne þearft,
"þeóden Scyldinga, on þâ healfe,
"aldor-bealu eorlum, swâ þu ær dydest."
Þâ wäs gylden hilt gamelum rince,
hârum hild-fruman, on hand gyfen,
1680 enta ær-geweorc, hit on æht gehwearf

äfter deófla hryre Denigea freán,
wundor-smiða geweorc, and þâ þâs worold ofgeaf
grom-heort guma, godes andsaca,
morðres scyldig, and his môdor eác;
1685 on geweald gehwearf worold-cyninga
þäm sêlestan be sæm tweónum
þâra þe on Sceden-igge sceattas dælde.
Hrôðgâr maðelode, hylt sceáwode,
ealde lâfe, on þäm wäs ôr writen
1690 fyrn-gewinnes: syððan flôd ofslôh,
gifen geótende, giganta cyn,
frêcne gefêrdon: þät wäs fremde þeód
êcean dryhtne, him þäs ende-leán
þurh wäteres wylm waldend sealde.
1695 Swâ wäs on þæm scennum scîran goldes
þurh rûn-stafas rihte gemearcod,
geseted and gesæd, hwam þät sweord geworht,
îrena cyst ærest wære,
wreoðen-hilt and wyrm-fâh. Þâ se wîsa spräc
1700 sunu Healfdenes (swîgedon ealle):
"Þät lâ mäg secgan, se þe sôð and riht
"fremeð on folce, (feor eal gemon
"eald êðel-weard), þät þes eorl wære
"geboren betera! Blæd is âræred
1705 "geond wîd-wegas, wine mîn Beówulf,
"þîn ofer þeóda gehwylce. Eal þu hit geþyldum healdest,
"mägen mid môdes snyttrum. Ic þe sceal mîne gelæstan
"freóde, swâ wit furðum spræcon; þu scealt tô frôfre weorðan
"eal lang-twidig leódum þînum,
1710 "häleðum tô helpe. Ne wearð Heremôd swâ
"eaforum Ecgwelan, Âr-Scyldingum;
"ne geweôx he him tô willan, ac tô wäl-fealle
"and tô deáð-cwalum Deniga leódum;
"breát bolgen-môd beód-geneátas,

1715 "eaxl-gesteallan, ôð þät he âna hwearf,
"mære þeóden. mon-dreámum from:
"þeáh þe hine mihtig god mägenes wynnum,
"eafeðum stêpte, ofer ealle men
"forð gefremede, hwäðere him on ferhðe greów
1720 "breóst-hord blôd-reów: nallas beágas geaf
"Denum äfter dôme; dreám-leás gebâd,
"þät he þäs gewinnes weorc þrowade,
"leód-bealo longsum. Þu þe lær be þon,
"gum-cyste ongit! ic þis gid be þe
1725 "âwräc wintrum frôd. Wundor is tô secganne,
"hû mihtig god manna cynne
"þurh sîdne sefan snyttru bryttað,
"eard and eorl-scipe, he âh ealra geweald.
"Hwîlum he on lufan læteð hworfan
1730 "monnes môd-geþonc mæran cynnes,
"seleð him on êðle eorðan wynne,
"tô healdanne hleó-burh wera,
"gedêð him swâ gewealdene worolde dælas,
"sîde rîce, þät he his selfa ne mäg
1735 "for his un-snyttrum ende geþencean;
"wunað he on wiste, nô hine wiht dweleð,
"âdl ne yldo, ne him inwit-sorh
"on sefan sweorceð, ne gesacu ôhwær,
"ecg-hete eówеð, ac him eal worold
1740 "wendeð on willan; he þät wyrse ne con,
"ôð þät him on innan ofer-hygda dæl
"weaxeð and wridað, þonne se weard swefeð,
"sâwele hyrde: bið se slæp tô fäst,
"bisgum gebunden, bona swîðe neáh,
1745 "se þe of flân-bogan fyrenum sceóteð.

XXVI.

The Discourse is Ended. — Beówulf Prepares to Leave.

"Þonne bið on hreðre under helm drepen
"biteran sträle: him bebeorgan ne con
"wom wundor-bebodum wergan gâstes;
"þinceð him tô lytel, þät he tô lange heóld,
1750 "gŷtsað grom-hydig, nallas on gylp seleð
"fätte beágas and he þâ forð-gesceaft
"forgyteð and forgŷmeð, þäs þe him ær god sealde,
"wuldres waldend, weorð-mynda dæl.
"Hit on ende-stäf eft gelimpeð,
1755 "þät se lîc-homa læne gedreóseð,
"fæge gefealleð; fêhð ôðer tô,
"se þe unmurnlîce mâdmas dæleð,
"eorles ær-gestreón, egesan ne gŷmeð.
"Bebeorh þe þone bealo-nîð, Beówulf leófa,
1760 "secg *se* betsta, and þe þät sêlre geceós,
"êce rædas; oferhyda ne gŷm,
"mære cempa! Nu is þînes mägnes blæd
"âne hwîle; eft sôna bið,
"þät þec âdl oððe ecg eafoðes getwæfeð,
1765 "oððe fŷres feng oððe flôdes wylm,
"oððe gripe mêces oððe gâres fliht,
"oððe atol yldo, oððe eágena bearhtm
"forsiteð and forsworceð semninga bið.
"þät þec, dryht-guma, deáð oferswŷðeð.
1770 "Swâ ic Hring-Dena hund missera
"weóld under wolenum, and hig wîge beleác
"manigum mægða geond þysne middan-geard,
"äscum and ecgum, þät ic me ænigne
"under swegles begong gesacan ne tealde.

1775 "Hwät! me þäs on êðle edwenden cwom,
"gyrn äfter gomene, seoððan Grendel wearð,
"eald-gewinna, in-genga mîn:
"ic þære sôcne singales wäg
"môd-ceare micle. Þäs sig metode þanc,
1780 "êcean drihtne, þäs þe ic on aldre gebâd,
"þät ic on þone hafelan heoro-dreórigne
"ofer eald gewin eágum starige!
"Gâ nu tô setle, symbel-wynne dreóh
"wîg-geweorðad: unc sceal worn fela
1785 "mâðma gemænra, siððan morgen bið."
Geát wäs gläd-môd, geóng sôna tô,
setles neósan, swâ se snottra hêht.
Þâ wäs eft swâ ær ellen-rôfum,
flet-sittendum fägere gereorded
1790 niówan stefne. Niht-helm geswearc
deorc ofer dryht-gumum. Duguð eal ârâs;
wolde blonden-feax beddes neósan,
gamela Scylding. Geát ungemetes wel,
rôfne rand-wîgan restan lyste:
1795 sôna him sele-þegn sîðes wêrgum,
feorran-cundum forð wîsade,
se for andrysnum ealle beweotede
þegnes þearfe, swylce þŷ dôgore
heáðo-lîðende habban scoldon.
1800 Reste hine þâ rûm-heort; reced hlifade
geáp and gold-fâh, gäst inne swäf,
ôð þät hrefn blaca heofones wynne
blîð-heort bodode. Þâ com beorht *sunne*
scacan *ofer grundas;* scaðan onetton,
1805 wæron äðelingas eft tô leódum
fûse tô farenne, wolde feor þanon
cuma collen-ferhð ceóles neósan.
Hêht þâ se hearda Hrunting beran,
sunu Ecglâfes, hêht his sweord niman,

1810 leóflîc îren; sägde him þäs leánes þanc,
cwäð he þone gûð-wine gôdne tealde,
wîg-cräftigne, nales wordum lôg
mêces ecge: þät wäs môdig secg.
And þâ sîð-frome searwum gearwe
1815 wîgend wæron, eode weorð Denum
äðeling tô yppan, þær se ôðer wäs
häle hilde-deór, Hrôðgâr grêtte.

XXVII. The Parting Words.

Beówulf maðelode, bearn Ecgþeówes:
"Nu we sæ-lîðend secgan wyllað
1820 "feorran cumene, þät we fundiað
"Higelâc sêcan. Wæron her tela
"willum bewenede; þu ûs wel dohtest.
"Gif ic þonne on eorðan ôwihte mäg
"þînre môd-lufan mâran tilian,
1825 "gumena dryhten, þonne ic gyt dyde,
"gûð-geweorca ic beó gearo sôna.
"Gif ic þät gefricge ofer flôda begang,
"þät þec ymbe-sittend egesan þywað,
"swâ þec hetende hwîlum dydon,
1830 "ic þe þûsenda þegna bringe,
"häleða tô helpe. Ic on Higelâce wât,
"Geáta dryhten, þeáh þe he geong sŷ,
"folces hyrde, þät he mec fremman wile
"wordum and worcum, þät ic þe wel herige,
1835 "and þe tô geóce gâr-holt bere
"mägenes fultum, þær þe bið manna þearf;
"gif him þonne Hrêðrîc tô hofum Geáta
"geþingeð, þeódnes bearn, he mäg þær fela
"freónda findan: feor cŷðde beóð
1840 "sêlran gesôhte þäm þe him selfa deáh."

Hrôðgâr maðelode him on andsware:
"Þe þâ word-cwydas wittig drihten
"on sefan sende! ne hŷrde ic snotorlîcor
"on swâ geongum feore guman þingian:
1845 "þu eart mägenes strang and on môde frôd,
"wîs word-cwida. Wên ic talige,
"gif þät gegangeð, þät þe gâr nymeð,
"hild heoru-grimme Hrêðles eaferan,
"âdl oððe îren ealdor þînne,
1850 "folces hyrde, and þu þîn feorh hafast,
"þät þe Sæ-Geátas sêlran näbben
"tô geceósenne cyning ænigne,
"hord-weard häleða, gif þu healdan wylt
"maga rîce. Me þîn môd-sefa
1855 "lîcað leng swâ wel, leófa Beówulf:
"hafast þu gefêred, þät þâm folcum sceal,
"Geáta leódum and Gâr-Denum
"sib gemænum and sacu restan,
"inwit-nîðas, þe hie ær drugon;
1860 "wesan, þenden ic wealde wîdan rîces,
"mâðmas gemæne, manig ôðerne
"gôdum gegrêtan ofer ganotes bäð;
"sceal hring-naca ofer heáðu bringan
"lâc and luf-tâcen. Ic þâ leóde wât
1865 "ge wið feónd ge wið freónd fäste geworhte,
"æghwäs untæle ealde wîsan."
Þâ git him eorla hleó inne gesealde,
mago Healfdenes mâðmas twelfe,
hêt hine mid þæm lâcum leóde swæse
1870 sêccan on gesyntum, snûde eft cuman.
Gecyste þâ cyning äðelum gôd,
þeóden Scildinga þegen betstan
and be healse genam; hruron him teáras,
blonden-feaxum: him wäs bega wên,
1875 ealdum infrôdum, ôðres swîðor,

þät hî seoððan geseón môston
môdige on meðle. Wäs him se man tô þon leóf,
þät he þone breóst-wylm forberan ne mehte,
ac him on hreðre hyge-bendum fäst
1880 äfter deórum men dyrne langað
beorn wið blôde. Him Beówulf þanan,
gûð-rinc gold-wlanc gräs-moldan träd,
since hrêmig: sæ-genga bâd
âgend-freán, se þe on ancre râd.
1885 Þâ wäs on gange gifu Hrôðgâres
oft geæhted: þät wäs ân cyning
æghwäs orleahtre, ôð þät hine yldo benam
mägenes wynnum, se þe oft manegum seôd.

XXVIII.

Beówulf Returns to Geatland.—The Queens Hygd and Thrytho.

Cwom þâ tô flôde fela-môdigra
1890 häg-stealdra *heáp;* hring-net bæron,
locene leoðo-syrcan. Land-weard onfand
eft-sîð eorla, swâ he ær dyde;
nô he mid hearme of hliðes nosan
gäs*tas* grêtte, ac him tôgeánes râd;
1895 cwäð þät wilcuman Wedera leódum
scawan scîr-hame tô scipe fôron.
Þâ wäs on sande sæ-geáp naca
hladen here-wædum, hringed-stefna
mearum and mâðmum: mäst hlifade
1900 ofer Hrôðgâres hord-gestreónum.
He päm bât-wearde bunden golde
swurd gesealde, þät he syððan wäs
on meodu-bence mâðme þŷ weorðra,

yrfe-lâfe, Gewât him on ȳð-nacan,
1905 drêfan deóp wäter, Dena land ofgeaf.
Þâ wäs be mäste mere hrägla sum,
segl sâle fäst. Sund-wudu þunede,
nô þær wêg-flotan wind ofer ŷðum
sîðes getwæfde; sæ-genga fôr,
1910 fleát fâmig-heals forð ofer ŷðe,
bunden-stefna ofer brim-streámas,
þät hie Geáta clifu ongitan meahton,
cûðe nässas. Ceól up geþrang,
lyft-geswenced on lande stôd.
1915 Hraðe wäs ät holme hŷð-weard gearo,
se þe ær lange tîd, leófra manna
fûs, ät faroðe feor wlâtode;
sælde tô sande sîd-fäðme scip
oncer bendum fäst, þŷ läs hym ŷða þrym
1920 wudu wynsuman forwrecan meahte.
Hêt þâ up beran äðelinga gestreón,
frätwe and fät-gold; näs him feor þanon
tô gesêcanne sinces bryttan:
Higelâc Hrêðling þær ät hâm wunað,
1925 selfa mid gesîðum sæ-wealle neáh;
bold wäs betlic, brego-rôf cyning,
heá *on* healle, Hygd swîðe geong,
wîs, wel-þungen, þeáh þe wintra lyt
under burh-locan gebiden häbbe
1930 Häreðes dôhtor: näs hió hnâh swâ þeáh,
ne tô gneáð gifa Geáta leódum,
mâðm-gestreóna. Môd Þryðo wäg,
fremu folces cwên, firen ondrysne:
nænig þät dorste deór genêðan
1935 swæsra gesîða, nefne sin-freá,
þät hire an däges eágum starede;
ac him wäl-bende weotode tealde,
hand-gewriðene: hraðe seoððan wäs

äfter mund-gripe mêce geþinged,
1940 þät hit sceaðen-mæl scyran môste,
cwealm-bealu cŷðan, Ne bið swylc cwênlîc þeáw
idese tô efnanne, þeáh þe hió ænlîcu sŷ,
þätte freoðu-webbe feores onsäce
äfter lîge-torne leófne mannan.
1945 Hûru þät onhôhsnode Heminges mæg;
ealo drincende ôðer sædan,
þät hió leód-bealewa läs gefremede,
inwit-nîða, syððan ærest wearð
gyfen gold-hroden geongum cempan,
1950 äðelum dióre, syððan hió Offan flet
ofer fealone flôd be fäder lâre
sîðe gesôhte, þær hió syððan wel
in gum-stôle, gôde mære,
lîf-gesceafta lifigende breác,
1955 hióld heáh-lufan wið häleða brego,
ealles mon-cynnes mîne gefræge
þone sêlestan bî sæm tweónum
eormen-cynnes; forþam Offa wäs
geofum and gûðum gâr-cêne man,
1960 wîde geweorðod; wîsdôme heóld
êðel sînne, þonon Eómær wôc
häleðum tô helpe, Heminges mæg,
nefa Gârmundes, nîða cräftig.

XXIX. His Arrival. Hygelac's Reception.

Gewât him þâ se hearda mid his hond-scole
1965 sylf äfter sande sæ-wong tredan,
wîde waroðas. Woruld-candel scân,
sigel sûðan fûs: hî sîð drugon,
elne geeodon, tô þäs þe eorla hleó,

bonan Ongenþeówes burgum on innan,
1970 geongne gûð-cyning gôdne gefrunon
hringas dælan. Higelâce wäs
sîð Beówulfes snûde gecŷðed,
þät þær on worðig wîgendra hleó,
lind-gestealla ´ lifigende cwom,
1975 heaðo-lâces hâl tô hofe gongan.
Hraðe wäs gerŷmed, swâ se rîca bebeád,
fêðe-gestum flet innan-weard.
Gesät þâ wið sylfne, se þâ säcce genäs,
mæg wið mæge, syððan man-dryhten
1980 þurh hleóðor-cwyde holdne gegrêtte
meaglum wordum. Meodu-scencum
hwearf geond þät reced Häreðes dôhtor:
lufode þâ leóde, lîð-wæge bär
hælum tô handa. Higelâc ongan
1985 sînne geseldan in sele þam heán
fägre fricgean, hyne fyrwet bräc,
hwylce Sæ-Geáta sîðas wæron:
"Hû lomp eów on lâde, leófa Biówulf,
"þâ þu færinga feorr gehogodest,
1990 "säcce sêcean ofer sealt wäter,
"hilde tô Hiorote? Ac þu Hrôðgâre
"wîd-cûðne weán wihte gebêttest,
"mærum þeódne? Ic þäs môd-ceare
"sorh-wylmum seáð, sîðe ne trûwode
1995 "leófes mannes; ic þe lange bäd,
"þät þu þone wäl-gæst wihte ne grêtte,
"lête Sûð-Dene sylfe geweorðan
"gûðe wið Grendel. Gode ic þanc secge,
"þäs þe ic þe gesundne geseón môste."
2000 Biówulf maðelode, bearn Ecgþiówes:
"Þät is undyrne, dryhten Higelâc,
"*mære* gemêting monegum fira,
"hwylc *orleg*-hwîl uncer Grendles

"wearð on þam wange, þær he worna fela
2005 "Sige-Scildingum sorge gefremede,
"yrmðe tô aldre; ic þät eal gewräc,
"swâ ne gylpan þearf Grendeles maga
"*ænig* ofer eorðan uht-hlem þone,
"se þe lengest leofað lâðan cynnes,
2010 "*fenne* bifongen. Ic þær furðum cwom,
"tô þam hring-sele Hrôðgâr grêtan:
"sôna me se mæra mago Healfdenes,
"syððan he môd-sefan mînne cûðe,
"wið his sylfes sunu setl getæhte.
2015 "Weorod wäs on wynne; ne seah ic wîdan feorh
"under heofenes hwealf heal-sittendra
"medu-dreám mâran. Hwîlum mæru cwên.
"friðu-sibb folca flet eall geond-hwearf,
"bædde byre geonge; oft hió beáh-wriðan
2020 "seege *sealde*, ær hió tô setle geóng.
"Hwîlum for duguðe dôhtor Hrôðgâres
"eorlum on ende ealu-wæge bär,
"þâ ic Freáware flet-sittende
"nemnan hŷrde, þær hió nägled sine
2025 "häleðum sealde sió gehâten *wäs*,
"geong gold-hroden, gladum suna Frôdan;
"hafað þäs geworden wine Scyldinga
"rîces hyrde and þät ræd talað,
"þät he mid þŷ wîfe wäl-fæhða dæl,
2030 "säcca gesette. Oft *nô* seldan hwær
"äfter leód-hryre lytle hwîle
"bon-gâr bûgeð, þeáh seó brŷd duge!

XXX. Beówulf's Story of the Slayings.

"Mäg þäs þonne ofþyncan þeóden Heaðobeardna
"and þegna gehwam þâra leóda,
2035 "þonne he mid fæmnan on flett gæð,
"dryht-bearn Dena duguða biwenede:
"on him gladiað gomelra lâfe
"heard and hring-mæl, Heaðobeardna gestreón,
"þenden hie þâm wæpnum wealdan môston,
2040 "ôð þät hie forlæddan tô þam lind-plegan
"swæse gesîðas ond hyra sylfra feorh.
"Þonne cwið ät beóre, se þe beáh gesyhð,
"eald äsc-wîga, se þe eall geman
"gâr-cwealm gumena (him bið grim *se*fa),
2045 "onginneð geômor-môd geong*ne* cempan
"þurh hreðra gehygd higes cunnian,
"wîg-bealu weccean and þät word âcwyð:
"'Meaht þu, mîn wine, mêce gecnâwan,
"'þone þin fäder tô gefeohte bär
2050 "'under here-grîman hindeman sîðe,
"'dŷre îren, þær hyne Dene slôgon,
"'weóldon wäl-stôwe (syððan wiðer-gyld läg
"'äfter häleða hryre) hwate Scyldungas?
"'Nu her þâra banena byre nât-hwylces,
2055 "'frätwum hrêmig on flet gæð,
"'morðres gylpeð and þone mâððum byreð,
"'þone þe þu mid rihte rædan sceoldest!'"
"Manað swâ and myndgað mæla gehwylce
"sârum wordum, ôð þät sæl cymeð,
2060 "þät se fæmnan þegn fore fäder dædum
"äfter billes bite blôd-fâg swefeð,
"ealdres scyldig; him se ôðer þonan
"losað *li*figende, con him land geare.

"Þonne bióð brocene on bâ healfe
2065 "âð-sweord eorla; *syð*ðan Ingelde
"weallað wäl-nîðas and him wîf-lufan
"äfter cear-wälmum côlran weorðað.
"Þŷ ic Heaðobeardna hyldo ne telge,
"dryht-sibbe dæl Denum unfæcne,
2070 "freónd-scipe fästne. Ic sceal forð sprecan
"gen ymbe Grendel, þät þu geare cunne,
"sinces brytta, tô hwan syððan wearð
"hond-ræs häleða. Syððan heofones gim
"glâd ofer grundas, gäst yrre cwom,
2075 "eatol æfen-grôm, ûser neósan,
"þær we gesunde säl weardodon;
"þær wäs Hondsció hild onsæge,
"feorh-bealu fægum, he fyrmest läg,
"gyrded cempa; him Grendel wearð,
2080 "mærum magu-þegne tô mûð-bonan,
"leófes mannes lîc eall forswealg.
"Nô þŷ ær ût þâ gen· îdel-hende
"bona blôdig-tôð bealewa gemyndig,
"of þam gold-sele gongan wolde,
2085 "ac he mägnes rôf mîn costode,
"grâpode gearo-folm. Glôf hangode
"sîd and syllîc searo-bendum fäst,
"sió wäs orþoncum eall gegyrwed
"deófles cräftum and dracan fellum:
2090 "he mec þær on innan unsynnigne,
"diór dæd-fruma, gedôn wolde,
"manigra sumne: hyt ne mihte swâ,
"syððan ic on yrre upp-riht âstôd.
"Tô lang ys tô reccenne, hû ic þam leód-sceaðan
2095 "yfla gehwylces ond-leán forgeald;
"þær ic, þeóden mîn, þîne leóde
"weorðode weorcum. He on weg losade,
"lytle hwîle lîf-wynna breác;

"hwäðre him sió swîðre swaðe weardade
2100 "hand on Hiorte and he heán þonan,
"môdes geômor mere-grund gefeóll.
"Me þone wäl-ræs wine Scildunga
"fättan golde fela leánode,
"manegum mâðmum, syððan mergen com
2105 "and we tô symble geseten häfdon.
"Þær wäs gidd and gleó; gomela Scilding
"fela fricgende feorran rehte;
"hwîlum hilde-deór hearpan wynne,
"gomen-wudu grêtte; hwîlum gyd âwräc
2110 "sôð and sârlîc; hwîlum syllîc spell
"rehte äfter rihte rûm-heort cyning.
"Hwîlum eft ongan eldo gebunden,
"gomel gûð-wîga gioguðe cwîðan
"hilde-strengo; hreðer inne weóll,
2115 "þonne he wintrum frôd worn gemunde.
"Swâ we þær inne andlangne däg
"nióde nâman, ôð þät niht becwom
"ôðer tô yldum. Þâ wäs eft hraðe
"gearo gyrn-wräce Grendeles môdor,
2120 "sîðode sorh-full; sunu deáð fornam,
"wîg-hete Wedra. Wîf unhŷre
"hyre bearn gewräc, beorn âcwealde
"ellenlîce; þær wäs Äsc-here,
"frôdan fyrn-witan, feorh ûðgenge;
2125 "nôðer hy hine ne môston, syððan mergen cwom,
"deáð-wêrigne Denia leóde
"bronde forbärnan, ne on bæl hladan
"leófne mannan: hió þät lîc ätbär
"feóndes fäð*mum* *un*der firgen-streám.
2130 "Þät wäs Hrôðgâre hreówa tornost
"þâra þe leód-fruman lange begeâte;
"þâ se þeóden mec þîne lŷfe
"healsode hreóh-môd, þät ic on holma geþring

"eorl-scipe efnde, ealdre genêðde,
2135 "mærðo fremede: he me mêde gehêt.
"Ic þâ þäs wälmes, þe is wîde cûð,
"grimne gryrelîcne grund-hyrde fond.
"Þær unc hwîle wäs hand gemæne;
"holm heolfre weóll and ic heáfde becearf
2140 "in þam *grund*-sele Grendeles môdor
"eácnum ecgum, unsôfte þonan
"feorh ôðferede; näs ic fæge þâ gyt,
"ac me eorla hleó eft gesealde
"mâðma menigeo, maga Healfdenes.

XXXI.

He gives Presents to Hygelac. Hygelac Rewards Him. Hygelac's Death. Beówulf Reigns.

2145 "Swâ se þeód-kyning þeáwum lyfde:
"nealles ic þâm leánum forloren häfde,
"mägnes mêde, ac he me *mâðm*as geaf,
"sunu Healfdenes, on *sinn*e sylfes dôm;
"þâ ic þe, beorn-cyning, bringan wylle,
2150 "êstum geŷwan. Gen is eall ät þe
"lissa gelong: ic lyt hafo
"heáfod-mâga, nefne Hygelâc þec!"
Hêt þâ in beran eafor, heáfod-segn,
heaðo-steápne helm, hâre byrnan,
2155 gûð-sweord geatolîc, gyd äfter wräc:
"Me þis hilde-sceorp Hrôðgâr sealde,
"snotra fengel, sume worde hêt,
"þät ic his ærest þe eft gesägde,
"cwäð þät hyt häfde Hiorogâr cyning,
2160 "leód Scyldunga lange hwîle;

"nô þŷ ær suna sînum syllan wolde,
"hwatum Heorowearde, þeáh he him hold wære,
"breóst-gewædu. Brûc ealles well!"
Hŷrde ic þät þâm frätwum feówer mearas
2165 lungre gelîce lâst weardode,
äppel-fealuwe; he him êst geteáh
meara and mâðma. Swâ sceal mæg dôn,
nealles inwit-net, ôðrum bregdan,
dyrnum cräfte deáð rên*ian*
2170 hond-gesteallan. Hygelâce wäs,
nîða heardum, nefa swŷðe hold
and gehwäðer ôðrum hrôðra gemyndig.
Hŷrde ic þät he þone heals-beáh Hygde gesealde,
wrätlîcne wundur-mâððum, þone þe him Wealhþeó geaf,
2175 þeódnes dôhtor, þrió wieg somod
swancor and sadol-beorht; hyre syððan wäs
äfter beáh-þege breóst geweorðod.
Swâ bealdode bearn Ecgþeówes,
guma gûðum cûð, gôdum dædum,
2180 dreáh äfter dôme, nealles druncne slôg
heorð-geneátas; näs him hreóh sefa,
ac he man-cynnes mæste cräfte
gin-fästan gife, þe him god sealde,
heóld hilde-deór. Heán wäs lange,
2185 swâ hyne Geáta bearn gôdne ne tealdon,
ne hyne on medo-bence micles wyrðne
drihten wereda gedôn wolde;
swŷðe *oft sägd*on, þät he sleac wære,
äðeling unfrom: edwenden cwom
2190 tîr-eádigum menn torna gehwylces.
Hêt þâ eorla hleó in gefetian,
heaðo-rôf cyning, Hrêðles lâfe,
golde gegyrede; näs mid Geátum þâ
sinc-mâððum sêlra on sweordes hâd;
2195 þät he on Biówulfes bearm âlegde,

and him gesealde seofan þûsendo,
bold and brego-stôl. Him wäs bâm samod
on þam leód-scipe lond geeynde,
eard êðel-riht, ôðrum swîðor
2200 sîde rîce, þam þær sêlra wäs.
Eft þät geiode ufaran dôgrum
hilde-hlämmum, syððan Hygelâc läg
and Heardrêde hilde-mêceas
under bord-hreóðan tô bonan wurdon,
2205 þâ hyne gesôhtan on sige-þeóde
hearde hilde-frecan. Heaðo-Scilfingas,
nîða genægdan nefan Hererîces.
Syððan Beówulfe brâde rîce
on hand gehwearf: he geheóld tela
2210 fîftig wintru (wäs þâ frôd cyning,
eald êðel-weard), ôð þät ân ongan
deorcum nihtum draca rîcsian,
se þe on heá*re* hæðe hord beweotode,
stân-beorh steápne: stîg under läg,
2215 eldum uncûð. Þær on innan gióng
niða nât-hwylces neódu gefêng
hæðnum horde hond . d . . geþ . . hwylc
since fâhne, he þät syððan . . . . .
. . . þ . . . lð . þ . . l . g
2220 slæpende be fŷre, fyrena hyrde
þeófes cräfte, þät sie . . . . ðioð . . . . .
. idh . folc-beorn, þät he gebolgen wäs.

XXXII. The Fire-Drake. The Hoard.

Nealles mid geweoldum wyrm-horda . . . cräft
sôhte sylfes willum, se þe him *sâ*re gesceód,
2225 ac for þreá-nêdlan þe*ów* nât-hwylces
häleða bearna hete-swengeas fleáh,

for ofer-þea*rfe* and þær inne fealh
secg syn-bysig. Sôna in þâ tîde
þät . . . . . þam gyste . . . . br . g . stôd,
2230 hwäðre earm-sceapen . . . . . .
. . ð . . . sceapen o . . . . i r . . e se fæs begeat,
sinc-fät *geseah:* þær wäs swylcra fela
in þam eorð-*scräfe* ær-gestreóna,
swâ hy on geâr-dagum gumena nât-hwylc
2235 eormen-lâfe äðelan cynnes
þanc-hycgende þær gehŷdde,
deóre mâðmas. Ealle hie deáð fornam
ærran mælum, and se ân þâ gen
leóda duguðe, se þær lengest hwearf,
2240 weard wine-geômor wîscte þäs yldan,
þät he lytel fäc long-gestreóna
brûcan môste. Beorh eal gearo
wunode on wonge wäter-ŷðum neáh,
niwe be nässe nearo-cräftum fäst:
2245 þær on innan bär eorl-gestreóna
hringa hyrde hard-fyrdne dæl
fättan goldes, feá worda cwäð:
"Heald þu nu hruse, nu häleð ne môston,
"eorla æhte. Hwät! hit ær on þe
2250 "gôde begeâton; gûð-deáð fornam,
"feorh-bealo frêcne fyra gehwylcne,
"leóda mînra, þâra þe þis *lîf* ofgeaf,
"gesâwon sele-dreám. Nâh hwâ sweord wege
"oðde fe*tige* fäted wæge,
2255 "drync-fät deóre: dug*uð* ellor scôc.
"Sceal se hearda helm *hyr*sted golde
"fätum befeallen: feormiend swefað,
"þâ þe beado-grîman bŷwan sceoldon,
"ge swylce seó here-pâd, sió ät hilde gebâd
2260 "ofer borda gebräc bite îrena,
"brosnað äfter beorne. Ne mäg byrnan hring

"äfter wîg-fruman wîde fêran
"häleðum be healfe; näs hearpan wyn,
"gomen gleó-beámes, ne gôd hafoc
2265 "geond säl swingeð, ne se swifta mearh
"burh-stede beáteð. Bealo-cwealm hafað
"fela feorh-cynna feorr onsended!"
Swâ giômor-môd giohðo mænde,
ân äfter eallum unblîðe hweóp,
2270 däges and nihtes, ôð þät deáðes wylm
hrân ät heortan. Hord-wynne fond
eald uht-sceaða opene standan,
se þe byrnende biorgas sêceð
nacod nîð-draca, nihtes fleógeð
2275 fŷre befangen; hyne fold-bûend
wîde gesâwon. He ge*wuni*an sceall
hlâw *under* hrusan, þær he hæðen gold
warað wintrum frôd; ne byð him wihte þê sêl.
Swâ se þeód-sceaða þreó hund wintra
2280 heóld on hrusan hord-ärna sum
eácen-räftig, ôð þät hyne ân âbealh
mon on môde: man-dryhtne bär
fäted wæge, frioðo-wære bâd
hlâford sînne. Þâ wäs hord râsod,
2285 onboren beága hord, bêne getîðad
feá-sceaftum men. Freá sceáwode
fira fyrn-geweorc forman sîðe.
Þâ se wyrm onwôc, wrôht wâs geniwad;
stonc þâ äfter stâne, stearc-heort onfand
2290 feóndes fôt-lâst; he tô forð gestôp,
dyrnan räfte, dracan heáfde neáh.
Swâ mäg unfæge eáðe gedîgan
weán and wräc-sîð, se þe waldendes
hyldo gehealdeð. Hord-weard sôhte
2295 georne äfter grunde, wolde guman findan,
þone þe him on sweofote sâre geteóde:

hât and hreóh-môd hlæw oft ymbe hwearf,
ealne ûtan-weardne; ne þær ænig mon
wäs on þære wêstenne. Hwäðre hilde gefeh,
2300 bea*do*-weorces: hwîlum on beorh äthwearf,
sinc-fät sôhte; he þät sôna onfand,
þät häfde gumena sum goldes gefandod
heáh-gestreóna. Hord-weard onbâd
earfoðlîce, ôð þät æfen cwom;
2305 wäs þâ gebolgen beorges hyrde,
wolde se lâda lîge forgyldan
drinc-fät dŷre. Þâ wäs däg sceacen
wyrme on willan, nô on wealle leng
bîdan wolde, ac mid bæle fôr,
2310 fŷre gefŷsed. Wäs se fruma egeslîc
leódum on lande, swâ hyt lungre wearð
on hyra sinc-gifan sâre geendod.

XXXIII.

Beówulf Resolves to Kill the Fire-Drake.

Þâ se gäst ongan glêdum spîwan,
beorht hofu bärnan; bryne-leóma stôd
2315 eldum on andan; nô þær âht cwices
láð lyft-floga læfan wolde.
Wäs þäs wyrmes wîg wîde gesŷne,
nearo-fâges nîð neán and feorran,
hû se gûð-sceaða Geáta leóde
2320 hatode and hŷnde: hord eft gesceát,
dryht-sele dyrnne ær däges hwîle.
Häfde land-wara lîge befangen,
bæle and bronde; beorges getrûwode,
wîges and wealles: him seó wên geleáh.
2325 Þâ wäs Biówulfe brôga gecŷðed
snûde tô sôðe, þät his sylfes him

bolda sêlest bryne-wylmum mealt,
gif-stôl Geáta. Þät þam gôdan wäs
hreów on hreðre, hyge-sorga mæst:
2330 wênde se wîsa, þät he wealdende,
ofer ealde riht, êcean dryhtne
bitre gebulge: breóst innan weóll
þeóstrum geþoncum, swâ him geþŷwe ne wäs.
Häfde lîg-draca leóda fästen,
2335 eá-lond ûtan, eorð-weard þone
glêdum forgrunden. Him þäs gûð-cyning,
Wedera þióden, wräce leornode.
Hêht him þâ gewyrcean wîgendra hleó
eall-îrenne, eorla dryhten
2340 wîg-bord wrätlîc; wisse he gearwe,
þät him holt-wudu he*lpan* ne mealhte,
lind wið lîge. Sceolde læn-daga
äðeling ær-gôd ende gebîdan
worulde lîfes and se wyrm somod,
2345 þeáh þe hord-welan heólde lange.
Oferhogode þâ hringa fengel,
þät he þone wîd-flogan weorode gesôhte,
sîdan herge; nô he him þâ säcce ondrêd,
ne him þäs wyrmes wîg for wiht dyde,
2350 eafoð and ellen; forþon he ær fela
nearo nêðende nîða gedîgde,
hilde-hlemma, syððan he Hrôðgâres,
sigor-eádig secg, sele fælsode
and ät gûðe forgrâp Grendeles mægum,
2355 lâðan cynnes. Nô þät läsest wäs
hond-gemota, þær mon Hygelâc slôh,
syððan Geáta cyning gûðe ræsum,
freá-wine folces Freslondum on,
Hrêðles eafora hioro-dryncum swealt,
2360 bille gebeáten; þonan Biówulf com
sylfes cräfte, sund-nytte dreáh;

† häfde him on earme . . . XXX
hilde-geatwa, þâ he tô holme *st*âg.
Nealles Hetware hrêmge þorfton
2365 fêðe-wîges, þe him foran ongeán
linde bæron: lyt eft becwom
fram þam hild-frecan hâmes niósan.
Oferswam þâ sióleða bigong suna Ecgþeówes,
earm ân-haga eft tô leódum,
2370 þær him Hygd gebeád hord and rîce,
beágas and brego-stôl: bearne ne trûwode,
þät he wið äl-fylcum êðel-stôlas
healdan cûðe, þâ wäs Hygelâc deád.
Nô þŷ ær feá-sceafte findan meahton
2375 ät þam äðelinge ænige þinga,
þät he Heardrêde hlâford wære,
oððe þone cyne-dôm ciósan wolde;
hwäðre he him on folce freónd-lârum heóld,
êstum mid âre, ôð þät he yldra wearð,
2380 Weder-Geátum weóld. Hyne wräc-mäcgas
ofer sæ sôhtan, suna Ôhteres:
häfdon hy forhealden helm Scylfinga,
þone sêlestan sæ-cyninga,
þâra þe in Swió-rîce sinc brytnade,
2385 mærne þeóden. Him þät tô mearce wearð;
he þær on feorme feorh-wunde hleát
sweordes swengum, sunu Hygelâces;
and him eft gewât Ongenþiówes bearn
hâmes niósan, syððan Heardrêd läg;
2390 lêt þone brego-stôl Biówulf healdan,
Geátum wealdan: þät wäs gôd cyning.

XXXIV.

Retrospect of Beówulf. — Strife between Sweonas and Geatas.

Se þäs leód-hryres leán gemunde
uferan dôgrum, Eádgilse wearð
feá-sceaftum feónd. Folce gestepte
2395 ofer sæ sîde sunu Ôhteres
wîgum and wæpnum: he gewräc syððan
cealdum cear-sîðum, cyning ealdre bineát.
Swâ he nîða gehwane genesen häfde,
slîðra geslyhta, sunu Ecgþiówes,
2400 ellen-weorca, ôð þone ânne däg,
þe he wið þam wyrme gewegan sceolde.
Gewât þâ twelfa sum torne gebolgen
dryhten Geáta dracan sceáwian;
häfde þâ gefrunen. hwanan sió fæhð ârâs,
2405 bealo-nîð biorna; him tô bearme cwom
máððum-fät mære þurh þäs meldan hond.
Se wäs on þam þreáte þreotteoða secg,
se þäs orleges ôr onstealde.
häft hyge-giômor, sceolde heán þonon
2410 wong wîsian: he ofer willan gióng
tô þäs þe he eorð-sele ânne wisse,
hlæw under hrusan holm-wylme nêh,
ŷð-gewinne, se wäs innan full
wrätta and wîra: weard unhióre,
2415 gearo gûð-freca, gold-mâðmas heóld,
eald under eorðan; näs þät ŷðe ceáp,
tô gegangenne gumena ænigum.
Gesät þâ on nässe nîð-heard cyning,
þenden hælo âbeád heorð-geneátum
2420 gold-wine Geáta: him wäs geômor sefa,
wäfre and wäl-fûs, Wyrd ungemete neáh,

se þone gomelan grêtan sceolde,
sêcean sâwle hord, sundur gedælan
lîf wið lîce: nô þon lange wäs
2425 feorh äðelinges flæsce bewunden.
Biówulf maðelade, bearn Ecgþeówes:
"Fela ic on giogoðe gûð-ræsa genäs,
"orleg-hwîla: ic þät eall gemon.
"Ic wäs syfan-wintre, þâ mec sinca baldor,
2430 "freá-wine folca ät mînum fäder genam,
"heóld mec and häfde Hrêðel cyning,
"geaf me sinc and symbel, sibbe gemunde;
"näs ic him tô lîfe lâðra ôwihte
"beorn in burgum, þonne his bearna hwylc,
2435 "Herebeald and Hæðcyn, oðde Hygelâc mîn.
"Wäs þam yldestan ungedêfelîce
"mæges dædum morðor-bed strêd,
"syððan hyne Hæðcyn of horn-bogan,
"his freá-wine flâne geswencte,
2440 "miste mercelses and his mæg ofscêt,
"brôðor ôðerne, blôdigan gâre:
"þät wäs feoh-leás gefeoht, fyrenum gesyngad,
"hreðre hyge-mêðe; sceolde hwäðre swâ þeáh
"äðeling unwrecen ealdres linnan.
2445 "Swâ bið geômorlîc gomelum ceorle
"tô gebîdanne, þät his byre rîde
"giong on galgan, þonne he gyd wrece,
"sârigne sang, þonne his sunu hangað
"hrefne tô hrôðre and he him helpan ne mäg,
2450 "eald and in-frôd, ænige gefremman.
"Symble bið gemyndgad morna gehwylce
"eaforan ellor-sîð; ôðres ne gŷmeð
"to gebîdanne burgum on innan
"yrfe-weardes, þonne se ân hafað
2455 "þurh deáðes nŷd dæda gefondad.
"Gesyhð sorh-cearig on his suna bûre

"win-sele wêstne, wind-gereste,
"reote berofene; rîdend swefað,
"häleð in hoðman; nis þær hearpan swêg,
2460 "gomen in geardum, swylce þær iú wæron.

XXXV.

Memories of Past Time. — The Feud with the Fire-Drake.

"Gewîteð þonne on sealman, sorh-leóð gäleð
"ân äfter ânum: þûhte him eall tô rûm,
"wongas and wîc-stede. Swâ Wedra helm
"äfter Herebealde heortan sorge
2465 "weallende wäg, wihte ne mealhte
"on þam feorh-bonan fæhðe gebêtan:
"nô þŷ ær he þone heaðo-rinc hatian ne mealhte
"lâðum dædum, þeáh him leóf ne wäs.
"He þâ mid þære sorge, þe him sió sâr belamp,
2470 "gum-dreám ofgeaf, godes leóht geceás;
"eaferum læfde, swâ dêð eádig mon,
"lond and leód-byrig, þâ he of lîfe gewât.
"Þâ wäs synn and sacu Sweona and Geáta.
"ofer wîd wäter wrôht gemæne.
2475 "here-nîð hearda, syððan Hrêðel swealt,
"oððe him Ongenþeówes eaferan wæran
"frome fyrd-hwate, freóde ne woldon
"ofer heafo healdan, ac ymb Hreosna-beorh
"eatolne inwit-scear oft gefremedon.
2480 "Þät mæg-wine mîne gewræcan,
"fæhðe and fyrene, swâ hyt gefræge wäs,
"þeáh þe ôðer hit ealdre gebohte,
"heardan ceápe: Hæðcynne wearð,
"Geáta dryhtne, gûð onsæge.

2485 "Þâ ic on morgne gefrägn mæg ôðerne
"billes ecgum on bonan stælan,
"þær Ongenþeów Eofores niósade:
"gûð-helm tôglâd, gomela Scylfing
"hreás *heoro*-blâc; hond gemunde
2490 "fæhðo genôge, feorh-sweng ne ofteáh.
"Ic him þâ mâðmas, þe he me sealde,
"geald ät gûðe, swâ me gifeðe wäs,
"leóhtan sweorde: he me lond forgeaf,
"eard êðel-wyn. Näs him ænig þearf,
2495 "þät he tô Gifðum oððe tô Gâr-Denum
"oððe in Swió-rîce sêccan þurfe
"wyrsan wîg-frecan, weorðe gecŷpan;
"symle ic him on fêðan beforan wolde,
"âna on orde, and swâ tô aldre sceall
2500 "säcce fremman, þenden þis sweord þolað,
"þät mec ær and sîð oft gelæste,
"syððan ic for dugeðum Däghrefne wearð
"tô hand-bonan, Huga cempan:
"nalles he þâ frätwe Fres-cyninge,
2505 "breóst-weorðunge bringan môste,
"ac in campe geerong cumbles hyrde,
"äðeling on elne. Ne wäs ecg bona,
"ac him hilde-grâp heortan wylmas,
"bân-hûs gebräc. Nu sceall billes ecg,
2510 "hond and heard sweord ymb hord wîgan."
Beówulf maðelode, beót-wordum spräc
niéhstan sîðe: "Ic genêðde fela
"gûða on geogoðe; gyt ic wylle,
"frôd folces weard, fæhðe sêcan,
2515 "mærðum fremman, gif mec se mân-sceaða
"of eorð-sele ût gesêceð!"
Gegrêtte þâ gumena gehwylcne,
hwate helm-berend hindeman sîðe,
swæse gesîðas: "Nolde ic sweord beran,

2520 "wæpen tô wyrme, gif ic wiste hû
"wið þam aglæcean elles mealite
"gylpe wiðgrîpan, swâ ic gió wið Grendle dyde;
"ac ic þær heaðu-fŷres hâtes wêne,
"rêðes and-hâttres: forþon ic me on hafu
2525 "bord and byrnan. Nelle ic beorges weard
"oferfleón fôtes trem, *feónd unhŷre*,
"ac unc sceal weorðan ät wealle, swâ unc Wyrd geteóð,
"metod manna gehwäs. Ic eom on môde from,
"þät ic wið þone gûð-flogan gylp ofersitte.
2530 "Gebîde ge on beorge byrnum werede,
"secgas on searwum, hwäðer sêl mæge
"äfter wäl-ræse wunde gedŷgan
"uncer twega. Nis þät eówer sîð,
"ne gemet mannes, nefne mîn ânes,
2535 "þät he wið aglæcean eofoðo dæle,
"eorl-scype efne. Ic mid elne sceall
"gold gegangan oððe gûð nimeð,
"feorh-bealu frêcne, freán eówerne!"
Ârâs þâ bî ronde rôf oretta,
2540 heard under helm, hioro-sercean bär
under stân-cleofu, strengo getrûwode
ânes mannes: ne bið swylc earges sîð.
Geseah þâ be wealle, se þe worna fela,
gum-cystum gôd, gûða gedîgde,
2545 hilde-hlemma, þonne hnitan fêðan,
(stôd on stân-bogan) streám ût þonan
brecan of beorge; wäs þære burnan wälm
heaðo-fŷrum hât: ne meahte horde neáh
unbyrnende ænige hwîle
2550 deóp gedŷgan for dracan lêge.
Lêt þâ of breóstum, þâ he gebolgen wäs,
Weder-Geáta leód word ût faran,
stearc-heort styrmde; stefn in becom
heaðo-torht hlynnan under hârne stân.

2555 Hete wäs onhrêred, hord-weard oncniów
mannes reorde; näs þær mâra fyrst,
freóde tô friclan. From ærest cwom
oruð aglæcean ût of stâne,
hât hilde-swât; hruse dynede.
2560 Biorn under beorge bord-rand onswâf
wið þam gryre-gieste, Geáta dryhten:
þâ wäs hring-bogan heorte gefŷsed
säcce tô sêceanne. Sweord ær gebräd
gôd gûð-cyning gomele lâfe,
2565 ecgum ungleáw, æghwäðrum wäs
bealo-hycgendra brôga fram ôðrum.
Stîð-môd gestôd wið steápne rond
winia bealdor, þâ se wyrm gebeáh
snûde tôsomne: he on searwum bâd.
2570 Gewât þâ byrnende gebogen scrîðan tô,
gescîfe scyndan. Scyld wel gebearg
lîfe and lîce lässan hwîle
mærum þeódne, þonne his myne sôhte,
þær he þŷ fyrste forman dôgore
2575 wealdan môste, swâ him Wyrd ne gescrâf
hrêð ät hilde. Hond up âbräd
Geáta dryhten, gryre-fâhne slôh
incge lâfe, þät sió ecg gewâc
brûn on bâne, bât unswîðor,
2580 þonne his þiód-cyning þearfe häfde,
bysigum gebæded. Þâ wäs beorges weard
äfter heaðu-swenge on hreóum môde,
wearp wäl-fŷre, wîde sprungon
hilde-leóman: hrêð-sigora ne gealp
2585 gold-wine Geáta, gûð-bill geswâc
nacod ät niðe, swâ hyt nô sceolde,
îren ær-gôd. Ne wäs þät êðe sið,
þät se mæra maga Ecgþeówes
grund-wong þone ofgyfan wolde;

2590 sceolde *wyrmes* willan wîc eardian
elles hwergen, swâ sceal æghwylc mon
âlætan læn-dagas. Näs þâ long tô þon,
þät þâ aglæcean hy eft gemêtton.
Hyrte hyne hord-weard, hreðer æðme weóll,
2595 niwan stefne nearo þrowode
fŷre befongen se þe ær folce weóld.
Nealles him on heápe hand-gesteallan,
äðelinga bearn ymbe gestôdon
hilde-cystum, ac hy on holt bugon,
2600 ealdre burgan. Hiora in ânum weóll
sefa wið sorgum: sibb æfre ne mäg
wiht onwendan, þam þe wel þenceð.

XXXVI. Wiglaf Helps Beówulf in the Feud.

Wîglâf wäs hâten Weoxstânes sunu,
leóflîc lind-wiga, leód Scylfinga,
2605 mæg Älfheres: geseah his mon-dryhten
under here-grîman hât þrowian.
Gemunde þâ þâ âre, þe he him ær forgeaf
wîc-stede weligne Wægmundinga,
folc-rihta gehwylc, swâ his fäder âhte;
2610 ne mihte þâ forhabban, hond rond gefêng,
geolwe linde, gomel swyrd geteáh,
þät wäs mid eldum Eánmundes lâf,
suna Ôhteres, þam ät säcce wearð
wracu wine-leásum Weohstânes bana
2615 mêces ecgum, and his mâgum ätbär
brûn-fâgne helm, hringde byrnan,
eald sweord eotonisc, þät him Onela forgeaf,
his gädelinges gûð-gewædu,
fyrd-searo fûslîc: nô ymbe þâ fæhðe spräc,
2620 þeáh þe he his brôðor bearn âbredwade.

He frätwe geheóld fela missera,
bill and byrnan, ôð þät his byre mihte
eorl-scipe efnan, swâ his ær-fäder;
geaf him þâ mid Geátum gûð-gewæda
2625 æghwäs unrim; þâ he of ealdre gewât,
frôd on forð-weg. Þâ wäs forma sîð
geongan cempan, þät he gûðe ræs
mid his freó-dryhtne fremman sceolde;
ne gemealt him se môd-sefa, ne his mæges lâf
2630 gewâc ät wîge: þät se wyrm onfand,
syððan hie tôgädre gegân häfdon.
Wîglâf maðelode word-rihta fela,
sägde gesîðum, him wäs sefa geômor:
"Ic þät mæl geman, þær we medu þêgun,
2635 "þonne we gehêton ûssum hlâforde
"in biór-sele, þe ûs þâs beágas geaf,
"þät we him þâ gûð-geatwa gyldan woldon,
"gif him þyslîcu þearf gelumpe,
"helmas and heard sweord: þê he ûsic on herge geceás
2640 "tô þyssum sîð-fate sylfes willum,
"onmunde ûsic mærða and me þâs mâðmas geaf,
"þe he ûsic gâr-wîgend gôde tealde,
"hwate helm-berend, þeáh þe hlâford ûs
"þis ellen-weorc âna âþôhte
2645 "tô gefremmanne, folces hyrde,
"forþam he manna mæst mærða gefremede,
"dæda dollîera. Nu is se däg cumen,
"þät ûre man-dryhten mägenes behôfað
"gôdra gûð-rinca: wutun gangan tô,
2650 "helpan hild-fruman, þenden hyt sŷ,
"glêd-egesa grim! God wât on mec,
"þät me is micle leófre, þät mînne lîc-haman
"mid mînne gold-gyfan glêd fäðmie.
"Ne þynceð me gerysne, þät we rondas beren
2655 "eft tô earde, nemne we æror mægen

"fâne gefyllan, feorh ealgian
"Wedra þiódnes. Ic wât geare,
"þät næron eald-gewyrht, þät he âna scyle
"Geáta duguðe gnorn þrowian,
2660 "gesîgan ät säcce: sceal ûrum þät sweord and helm,
"byrne and byrdu-scrûd bâm gemæne."
Wôd þâ þurh þone wäl-rêc, wîg-heafolan bär
freán on fultum, feá worda cwäð:
"Leófa Biówulf, læst eall tela,
2665 "swâ þu on geoguð-feore geâra geewæde,
"þät þu ne âlæte be þe lifigendum
"dôm gedreósan: scealt nu dædum rôf,
"äðeling ân-hydig, ealle mägene
"feorh ealgian; ic þe fullæstu!"
2670 Äfter þâm wordum wyrm yrre cwom,
atol inwit-gäst ôðre sîðe,
fŷr-wylmum fâh fiónda niósan,
lâðra manna; lîg-ŷðum forborn
bord wið ronde: byrne ne meahte
2675 geongum gâr-wigan geóce gefremman:
ac se maga geonga under his mæges scyld
elne gecode, þâ his âgen *wäs*
glêdum forgrunden. Þâ gen gûð-cyning
mærða gemunde, mägen-strengo,
2680 slôh hilde-bille, þät hyt on heafolan stôd
nîðe genŷded: Nägling forbärst,
geswâc ät säcce sweord Biówulfes
gomol and græg-mæl. Him þät gifeðe ne wäs,
þät him irenna ecge mihton
2685 helpan ät hilde; wäs sió hond tô strong,
se þe mêca gehwane mîne gefræge
swenge ofersôhte, þonne he tô säcce bär
wæpen wundrum heard, näs him wihte þê sêl.
Þâ wäs þeód-sceaða þriddan sîðe,
2690 frêcne fŷr-draca fæhða gemyndig,

ræsde on þone rôfan, þâ him rûm âgeald,
hât and heaðo-grim, heals ealne ymbefêng
biteran bânum; he geblôdegod wearð
sâwul-drióre; swât ŷðum weóll.

XXXVII. Beówulf Wounded to Death.

2695 Þâ ic ät þearfe *gefrägn* þeód-cyninges
and-longne eorl ellen cŷðan,
räft and cênðu, swâ him gecynde wäs;
ne hêdde he þäs heafolan, ac sió hand gebarn
môdiges mannes, þær he his mæges healp,
2700 þät he þone nîð-gäst nioðor hwêne slôh,
secg on searwum, þät þät sweord gedeáf
fâh and fäted, þät þät fŷr ongon
sweðrian syððan. Þâ gen sylf cyning
geweóld his gewitte, wäll-seaxe gebräd,
2705 biter and beadu-scearp, þät he on byrnan wäg:
forwrât Wedra helm wyrm on middan.
Feónd gefyldan (ferh ellen wräc),
and hi hyne þâ begen âbroten häfdon,
sib-äðelingas: swylc sceolde secg wesan,
2710 þegn ät þearfe. Þät þam þeódne wäs
sîðast sîge-hwîle sylfes dædum,
worlde geweorces. Þâ sió wund ongon,
þe him se eorð-draca ær geworhte,
swêlan and swellan. He þät sôna onfand,
2715 þät him on breóstum bealo-nîð weóll,
âttor on innan. Þâ se äðeling gióng,
þät he bî wealle, wîs-hycgende,
gesät on sesse; seah on enta geweorc,
hû þâ stân-bogan stapulum fäste
2720 êce eorð-reced innan heóldon.
Hyne þâ mid handa heoro-dreórigne

þeóden mærne þegn ungemete till,
wine-dryhten his wätere gelafede,
hilde-sädne and his helm onspeón.
2725 Biówulf maðelode, he ofer benne spräc,
wunde wäl-bleáte (wisse he gearwe,
þät he däg-hwîla gedrogen häfde
eorðan wynne; þâ wäs eall sceacen
dôgor-gerîmes, deáð ungemete neáh):
2730 "Nu ic suna mînum syllan wolde
"gûð-gewædu, þær me gifeðe swâ
"ænig yrfe-weard äfter wurde,
"lîce gelenge. Ic þâs leóde heóld
"fîftig wintra: näs se folc-cyning
2735 "ymbe-sittendra ænig þâra,
"þe mec gûð-winum grêtan dorste,
"egesan þeón. Ic on earde bâd
"mæl-gesceafta, heóld mîn tela,
"ne sôhte searo-nîðas, ne me swôr fela
2740 "âða on unriht. Ic þäs ealles mäg,
"feorh-bennum seóc, gefeán habban:
"forþam me wîtan ne þearf waldend fira
"morðor-bealo mâga, þonne mîn sceaceð
"lîf of lîce. Nu þu lungre
2745 "geong, hord sceáwian under hârne stân,
"Wîglâf leófa, nu se wyrm ligeð,
"swefeð sâre wund, since bereáfod.
"Bió nu on ôfoste, þät ic ær-welan,
"gold-æht ongite, gearo sceáwige
2750 "swegle searo-gimmas, þät ic þŷ sêft mæge
"äfter mâððum-welan mîn âlætan
"lîf and leód-scipe, þone ic longe heóld."

XXXVIII.

The Jewel–Hoard. The Passing of Beówulf.

Þâ ic snûde gefrägn sunu Wihstânes
äfter word-cwydum wundum dryhtne
2755 hŷran heaðo-siócum, hring-net beran,
brogdne beadu-sercean under beorges hrôf.
Geseah þâ sige-hrêðig, þâ he bî sesse geóng,
mago-þegn môdig mâððum-sigla fela,
gold glitinian grunde getenge,
2760 wundur on wealle and þäs wyrmes denn,
ealdes uht-flogan, orcas stondan,
fyrn-manna fatu feormend-leáse,
hyrstum behrorene: þær wäs helm monig,
eald and ômig, earm-beága fela,
2765 searwum gesæled. Sinc eáðe mäg,
gold on grunde, gumena cynnes
gehwone ofer-higian, hŷde se þe wylle!
Swylce he siomian geseah segn eall-gylden
heáh ofer horde, hond-wundra mæst,
2770 gelocen leoðo-räftum: of þam leóma stôd,
þät he þone grund-wong ongitan meahte,
wräte giond-wlîtan. Näs þäs wyrmes þær
onsŷn ænig, ac hyne ecg fornam.
Þâ ic on hlæwe gefrägn hord reáfian,
2775 eald enta geweorc ânne mannan,
him on bearm hladan bunan and discas
sylfes dôme, segn eác genom,
beácna beorhtost; bill ær-gescôd
(ecg wäs îren) eald-hlâfordes
2780 þam þâra mâðma mund-bora wäs
longe hwîle, lîg-egesan wäg
hâtne for horde. hioro-weallende,

middel-nihtum, ôð þät he morðre swealt.
Âr wäs on ôfoste eft-sîðes georn,
2785 frätwum gefyrðred: hyne fyrwet bräc,
hwäðer collen-ferð cwicne gemêtte
in þam wong-stede Wedra þeóden,
ellen-siócne, þær he hine ær forlêt.
He þâ mid þâm mâðmum mærne þióden,
2790 dryhten sînne driórigne fand
ealdres ät ende: he hine eft ongon
wätere weorpan, ôð þät wordes ord
breóst-hord þurhbräc. *Beówulf maðelode*,
gomel on giohðe (gold sceáwode):
2795 "Ic þâra frätwa freán ealles þanc
"wuldur-cyninge wordum secge,
"êcum dryhtne, þe ic her on starie,
"þäs þe ic môste mînum leódum
"ær swylt-däge swyle gestrŷnan.
2800 "Nu ic on mâðma hord mîne bebohte
"frôde feorh-lege, fremmað ge nu
"leóda þearfe; ne mäg ic her leng wesan.
"Hâtað heaðo-mære hläw gewyrcean,
"beorhtne äfter bæle ät brimes nosan;
2805 "se scel tô gemyndum mînum leódum
"heáh hlifian on Hrones nässe,
"þät hit sæ lîðend syððan hâtan
"Biówulfes biorh, þâ þe brentingas
"ofer flôda genipu feorran drîfað."
2810 Dyde him of healse hring gyldenne
þióden þrîst-hydig, þegne gescalde,
geongum gâr-wigan, gold-fâhne helm,
beáh and byrnan, hêt hyne brûcan well:
"Þu eart ende lâf ûsses cynnes,
2815 "Wægmundinga; ealle Wyrd forsweóf,
"mîne mâgas tô metod-scafte,
"eorlas on elne: ic him äfter sceal."

Þät wäs þam gomelan gingeste word
breóst-gehygdum, ær he bæl cure,
2820 hâte heaðo-wylmas: him of hreðre gewât
sâwol sêcean, sôð-fästra dôm.

XXXIX. The Coward–Thanes.

Þâ wäs gegongen guman unfrôdum
earfoðlîce, þät he on eorðan geseah
þone leófestan lîfes ät ende
2825 bleáte gebæran. Bona swylce läg,
egeslîc eorð-draca, ealdre bereáfod,
bealwe gebæded: beáh-hordum leng
wyrm woh-bogen wealdan ne môste,
ac him îrenna ecga fornâmon,
2830 hearde heaðo-scearpe homera lâfe,
þät se wîd-floga wundum stille
hreás on hrusan hord-ärne neáh,
nalles äfter lyfte lâcende hwearf
middel-nihtum, mâðm-æhta wlonc
2835 ansŷn ŷwde: ac he eorðan gefeóll
for þäs hild-fruman hond-geweorce.
Hûru þät on lande lyt manna þâh
mägen-âgendra mîne gefræge,
þeáh þe he dæda gehwäs dyrstig wære,
2840 þät he wið âttor-sceaðan oreðe geræsde,
oððe hring-sele hondum styrede,
gif he wäccende weard onfunde
bûan on beorge. Biówulfe wearð
dryht-mâðma dæl deáðe forgolden;
2845 häfde æghwäðer ende gefêred
lænan lîfes. Näs þâ lang tô þon,
þät þâ hild-latan holt ofgêfan,
tydre treów-logan tyne ätsomne,

þâ ne dorston ær dareðum lâcan
2850 on hyra man-dryhtnes micłan þearfe;
ac hy scamiende scyldas bæran,
gûð-gewædu, þær se gomela läg:
wlitan on Wîglâf. He gewêrgad sät,
fêðe-cempa freán eaxlum neáh,
2855 wehte hyne wätre; him wiht ne speów;
ne meahte he on eorðan, þeáh he ûðe wel,
on þam frum-gâre feorh gehealdan,
ne þäs wealdendes *willan* wiht oncirran;
wolde dôm godes dædum rædan
2860 gumena gehwylcum, swâ he nu gen dêð,
þâ wäs ät þam geongum grim andswaru
êð-begête þâm þe ær his elne forleás.
Wîglâf maðelode, Weohstânes sunu,
seeg sârig-ferð seah on unleófe:
2865 "Þät lâ mäg seegan, se þe wyle sôð sprecan,
"þät se mon-dryhten, se eów þâ mâðmas geaf,
"eóred-geatwe, þe ge þær on standað,
"þonne he on ealu-bence oft gesealde
"heal-sittendum helm and byrnan,
2870 "þeóden his þegnum, swylce he þryðlîcost
"ôhwær feor oððe neáh findan meahte,
"þät he genunga gûð-gewædu
"wrâðe forwurpe. Þâ hyne wîg beget,
"nealles folc-cyning fyrd-gesteallum
2875 "gylpan þorfte; hwäðre him god ûðe,
"sigora waldend, þät he hyne sylfne gewräc
"âna mid eege, þâ him wäs elnes þearf.
"Ic him lîf-wraðe lytle meahte
"ätgifan ät gûðe and ongan swâ þeáh
2880 "ofer mîn gemet mæges helpan:
"symle wäs þŷ sæmra, þonne ic sweorde drep
"ferhð-genîðlan, fŷr unswîðor
"weóll of gewitte. Wergendra tô lyt

"þrong ymbe þeóden, þâ hyne sió þrag beewom.
2885 "Nu sceal sinc-þego and swyrd-gifu
"eall êðel-wyn eówrum cynne,
"lufen âliegean: lond-rihtes môt
"þære mæg-burge monna æghwylc
"îdel hweorfan, syððan äðelingas
2890 "feorran gefriegean fleám eówerne,
"dôm-leásan dæd. Deáð bið sêlla
"eorla gehwylcum þonne edwît-lîf!"

XL. The Soldier's Dirge and Prophecy.

Hêht þâ þät heaðo-weorc tô hagan biódan
up ofer êg-clif, þær þät eorl-weorod
2895 morgen-longne däg môd-giômor sät,
bord-häbbende, bega on wênum
ende-dôgores and eft-cymes
leófes monnes. Lyt swîgode
niwra spella, se þe näs gerâd,
2900 ac he sôðlîce sägde ofer ealle;
"Nu is wil-geofa Wedra leóda,
"dryhten Geáta deáð-bedde fäst,
"wunað wäl-reste wyrmes dædum;
"him on efn ligeð ealdor-gewinna,
2905 "siex-bennum seóc: sweorde ne meahte
"on þam aglæcean ænige þinga
"wunde gewyrcean. Wîglâf siteð
"ofer Biówulfe, byre Wihstânes,
"eorl ofer ôðrum unlifigendum,
2910 "healdeð hige-mêðum heáfod-wearde,
"leófes and lâðes. Nu ys leódum wên
"orleg-hwîle, syððan underne
"Froncum and Frysum fyll cyninges
"wîde weorðeð. Wäs sió wrôht scepen

2915 "heard wið Hugas, syddan Higelâc cwom
"faran flot-herge on Fresna land,
"þær hyne Hetware hilde gehnægdon,
"elne geeodon mid ofer-mägene,
"þät se byrn-wîga bûgan sceolde,
2920 "feóll on fêdan: nalles frätwe geaf
"ealdor dugoðe; ûs wäs â syddan
"Merewioinga milts ungyfeðe.
"Ne ic tô Sweó-þeóde sibbe oðde treówe
"wihte ne wêne; ac wäs wîde cûð,
2925 "þätte Ongenþió ealdre besnyðede
"Hæðcyn Hrêðling wið Hrefna-wudu,
"þâ for on-mêdlan ærest gesôhton
"Geáta leóde Gûð-scilfingas.
"Sôna him se frôda fäder Ôhtheres,
2930 "eald and eges-full ond-slyht âgeaf,
"âbreót brim-wîsan, bryd âheórde,
"gomela ió-meowlan golde berofene,
"Onelan môdor and Ôhtheres,
"and þâ folgode feorh-genîðlan
2935 "ôð þät hî ôðeodon earfoðlîce
"in Hrefnes-holt hlâford-leáse.
"Besät þâ sin-herge sweorda lâfe
"wundum wêrge, weán oft gehêt
"earmre teohhe andlonge niht:
2940 "cwäð he on mergenne mêces eegum
"getan wolde, sume on galg-treówum
"*fuglum* tô gamene. Frôfor eft gelamp
"sârig-môdum somod ær-däge,
"syddan hie Hygelâces horn and bŷman
2945 "gealdor ongeâton. Þâ se gôda com
"leóda dugoðe on lâst faran.

XLI. He Tells of the Swedes and the Geatas.

"Wäs sió swât-swaðu Sweona and Geáta,
"wäl-ræs wera wîde gesŷne,
"hû þâ folc mid him fæhðe tôwehton.
2950 "Gewât him þâ se gôda mid his gädelingum,
"frôd fela geômor fästen sêccean,
"eorl Ongenþió ufor oncirde;
"häfde Higelâces hilde gefrunen,
"wlonces wîg-cräft, wiðres ne trûwode,
2955 "þät he sæ-mannum onsacan mihte,
"heáðo-liðendum hord forstandan,
"bearn and brŷde; beáh eft þonan
"eald under eorð-weall. Þâ wäs æht boden
"Sweona leódum, segn Higelâce.
2960 "Freoðo-wong þone forð ofereodon,
"syddan Hrêðlingas tô hagan þrungon.
"Þær wearð Ongenþió ecgum sweorda,
"blonden-fexa on bîd wrecen,
"þät se þeód-cyning þafian sceolde
2965 "Eofores ânne dôm: hyne yrringa
"Wulf Wonrêding wæpne geræhte,
"þät him for swenge swât ædrum sprong
"forð under fexe. Näs he forht swâ þêh,
"gomela Scilfing, ac forgeald hraðe
2970 "wyrsan wrixle wäl-hlem þone,
"syddan þeód-cyning þyder oncirde:
"ne meahte se snella sunu Wonrêdes
"ealdum ceorle ond-slyht giofan,
"ac he him on heáfde helm ær gescer,
2975 "þät he blôde fâh bûgan sceolde,
"feóll on foldan; näs he fæge þâ git,
"ac he hyne gewyrpte, þeáh þe him wund hrine.
"Lêt se hearda Higelâces þegn

"brâdne mêce, þâ his brôðor läg,
2980 "eald sweord eotonisc, entiscne helm,
"brecan ofer bord-weal: þâ gebeáh cyning,
"folces hyrde, wäs in feorh dropen.
"Þâ wæron monige, þe his mæg wriðon,
"ricone ârærdon, þâ him gerŷmed wearð,
2985 "þät hie wäl-stôwe wealdan môston.
"Þenden reáfode rinc ôðerne,
"nam on Ongenþió îren-byrnan,
"heard swyrd hilted and his helm somod;
"hâres hyrste Higelâce bär.
2990 "He *þâm* frätwum fêng and him fägre gehêt
"leána *fore* leódum and gelæste swâ:
"geald þone gûð-ræs Geáta dryhten,
"Hrêðles eafora, þâ he tô hâm becom,
"Jofore and Wulfe mid ofer-mâðmum,
2995 "sealde hiora gehwäðrum hund þûsenda
"landes and locenra beága; ne þorfte him þâ leán ôðwîtan
"mon on middan-gearde, syððan hie þâ mærða geslôgon;
"and þâ Jofore forgeaf ângan dôhtor,
"hâm-weorðunge, hyldo tô wedde.
3000 "Þât ys sió fæhðo and se feônd-scipe,
"wäl-nîð wera, þäs þe ic *wên* hafo,
"þe ûs sêceað tô Sweona leóde,
"syððan hie gefricgeað freán ûserne
"ealdor-leásne, þone þe ær geheóld
3005 "wið hettendum hord and rîce,
"äfter häleða hryre hwate Scylfingas,
"folc-ræd fremede oððe furður gen
"eorl-scipe efnde. Nu is ôfost betost,
"þät we þeód-cyning þær sceáwian
3010 "and þone gebringan, þe ûs beágas geaf,
"on âd-färe. Ne scel ânes hwät
"meltan mid þam môdigan, ac þær is mâðma hord,

"gold unrîme grimme geceá*po*d
"and nu ät sîðestan sylfes feore
3015 "beágas *geboh*te; þâ sceal brond fretan,
"äled þeccean, nalles eorl wegan
"mâððum tô gemyndum, ne mägð scŷne
"habban on healse hring-weorðunge,
"ac sceall geômor-môd golde bereáfod
3020 "oft nalles æne el-land tredan,
"nu se here-wîsa hleahtor âlegde,
"gamen and gleó-dreám. Forþon sceall gâr wesan
"monig morgen-ceald mundum bewunden,
"häfen on handa, nalles hearpan swêg
3025 "wîgend weccean, ac se wonna hrefn
"fûs ofer fægum, fela reordian,
"earne secgan, hû him ät æte speów,
"þenden he wið wulf wäl reáfode."
Swâ se secg hwata secgende wäs
3030 lâðra spella; he ne leág fela
wyrda ne worda. Weorod eall ârâs,
eodon unblîðe under Earna näs
wollen-teáre wundur sceáwian.
Fundon þâ on sande sâwul-leásne
3035 hlim-bed healdan, þone þe him hringas geaf
ærran mælum: þâ wâs ende-däg
gôdum gegongen, þät se gûð-cyning,
Wedra þeóden, wundor-deáðe swealt.
Ær hî gesêgan syllîcran wiht,
3040 wyrm on wonge wiðer-rähtes þær
lâðne licgean: wäs se lêg-draca,
grimlîc gry*re-gäst*, glêdum beswæled;
se wäs fîftiges fôt-gemearces
lang on legere, lyft-wynne heóld
3045 nihtes hwîlum, nyðer eft gewât
dennes niósian; wäs þâ deáðe fäst,
häfde eorð-scrafa ende genyttod.

Him big stôdan bunan and orcas,
discas lâgon and dŷre swyrd,
3050 ômige þurh-etone, swâ hie wið eorðan fäðm
þûsend wintra þær eardodon:
þonne wäs þät yrfe eácen-räftig,
iú-monna gold galdre bewunden,
þät þam hring-sele hrînan ne môste
3055 gumena ænig, nefne god sylfa,
sigora sóð-cyning, sealde þam þe he wolde
(he is manna gehyld) hord openian,
efne swâ hwylcum manna, swâ him gemet þûhte.

XLII.

Wîglaf Speaks. The Building of the Bale-Fire.

Þâ wäs gesŷne, þät se sîð ne þâh
3060 þam þe unrihte inne gehŷdde
wräte under wealle. Weard ær ofslôh
feára sumne; þâ sió fæhð gewearð
gewreccen wrâðlîce. Wundur hwâr, þonne
eorl ellen-rôf ende gefêre
3065 lîf-gesceafta, þonne leng ne mäg
mon mid his *mâ*gum medu-seld bûan?
Swâ wäs Biówulfe, þâ he biorges weard
sôhte, searo-nîðas: seolfa ne cûðe,
þurh hwät his worulde gedâl weorðan sceolde;
3070 swâ hit ôð dômes däg diópe benemdon
þeódnas mære, þâ þät þær dydon,
þät se secg wære synnum scildig,
hergum geheaðerod, hell-bendum fäst,
wommum gewitnad, se þone wong strâde.
3075 Näs he gold-hwät: gearwor häfde

âgendes êst ær gesceáwod.
Wîglâf maðelode, Wihstânes sunu:
"Oft sceall eorl monig ânes willan
"wræc âdreógan, swâ ûs geworden is.
3080 "Ne mealhton we gelæran leófne þeóden,
"rîces hyrde ræd ænigne,
"þät he ne grêtte gold-weard þone,
"lête hyne licgean, þær he longe wäs,
"wîcum wunian ôð woruld-ende.
3085 "Heóldon heáh gesceap: hord ys gesceáwod,
"grimme gegongen; wäs þät gifeðe tô swîð,
"þe þone *þeóden* þyder ontyhte.
"Ic wäs þær inne and þät eall geond-seh,
"recedes geatwa, þâ me gerŷmed wäs,
3090 "nealles swæslîce sîð âlŷfed
"inn under eorð-weall. Ic on ôfoste gefêng
"micle mid mundum mägen-byrðenne
"hord-gestreóna, hider ût ätbär
"cyninge mînum: cwico wäs þâ gena,
3095 "wîs and gewittig; worn eall gespräc
"gomol on gehðo and eówic grêtan hêt,
"bäd þät ge geworhton äfter wines dædum
"in bæl-stede beorh þone heán
"micelne and mærne, swâ he manna wäs
3100 "wîgend weorð-fullost wîde geond eorðan,
"þenden he burh-welan brûcan môste.
"Uton nu êfstan ôðre *sîðe*
"seón and sêcean searo-geþräc,
"wundur under wealle! ic eów wîsige,
3105 "þät ge genôge neán sceáwiað
"beágas and brâd gold. Sîe sió bær gearo
"ädre geäfned, þonne we ût cymen,
"and þonne geferian freán ûserne,
"leófne mannan, þær he longe sceal
3110 "on þäs waldendes wære geþolian."

Hêt þâ gebeódan byre Wihstânes,
häle hilde-diór, häleða monegum
bold-âgendra, þät hie bæl-wudu
feorran feredon, folc-âgende
3115 gôdum tôgênes: "Nu sceal glêd fretan
"(weaxan wonna lêg) wîgena strengel,
"þone þe oft gebâd îsern-scûre,
"þonne stræla storm, strengum gebæded,
"scôc ofer scild-weall. sceft nytte heóld,
3120 "feðer-gearwum fûs flâne full-eode."
Hûru se snotra sunu Wihstânes
âcîgde of corðre cyninges þegnas
syfone *tôsom*ne þâ sêlestan,
eode eahta sum under inwit-hrôf;
3125 hilde-rinc sum on handa bär
äled-leóman, se þe on orde geóng.
Näs þâ on hlytme, hwâ þät hord strude,
syððan or-wearde ænigne dæl
secgas gesêgon on sele wunian,
3130 læne licgan: lyt ænig mearn,
þät hi ôfostlice ût geferedon
dŷre mâðmas; dracan êc scufun,
wyrm ofer weall-clif, lêton wæg niman,
flôd fäðmian frätwa hyrde.
3135 Þær wäs wunden gold on wæn hladen,
æghwäs unrîm, äðeling boren,
hâr hilde-*rinc* tô Hrônes nässe.

XLIII. Beówulf's Funeral Pyre.

Him þâ gegiredan Geáta leóde
âd on eorðan un-wâclîcne,
3140 helmum behongen, hilde-bordum,
beorhtum byrnum, swâ he bêna wäs;
âlegdon þâ tô-middes mærne þeóden
häleð hiófende, hlâford leófne.
Ongunnon þâ on beorge bæl-fŷra mæst
3145 wîgend weccan: wudu-rêc âstâh
sweart ofer swioðole, swôgende lêg,
wôpe bewunden (wind-blond geläg)
ôð þät he þâ bân-hûs gebrocen häfde,
hât on hreðre. Higum unrôte
3150 môd-ceare mændon mon-dryhtnes cwealm;
swylce giômor-gyd † lat . con meowle
. . . . . wunden heorde . . .
serg (?) cearig sælde geneahhe
þät hio hyre . . . . gas hearde
3155 . . . . . ede wälfylla wonn . .
hildes egesan hyðo
haf mid heofon rêce swealh (?)
Geworhton þâ Wedra leóde
hlæw on hliðe, se wäs heáh and brâd,
3160 wæg-lîðendum wîde gesŷne,
and betimbredon on tyn dagum
beadu-rôfes bêcn: bronda be*tost*
wealle beworhton, swâ hyt weorðlîcost
fore-snotre men findan mihton.
3165 Hî on beorg dydon bêg and siglu,
eall swylce hyrsta, swylce on horde ær
nîð-hydige men genumen häfdon;
forlêton eorla gestreón eorðan healdan,
gold on greóte, þær hit nu gen lifað

3170 eldum swâ unnyt, swâ hit *æror* wäs.
Þâ ymbe hlæw riodan hilde-deóre,
äðelinga bearn ealra twelfa,
woldon *ceare* cwîðan, kyning mænan,
word-gyd wrecan and ymb wer sprecan,
3175 eahtodan eorl-scipe and his ellen-weorc
duguðum dêmdon, swâ hit ge-*dêfe* bið,
þät mon his wine-dryhten wordum hêrge,
ferhðum freóge, þonne he forð scile
of lîc-haman *læne* weorðan.
3180 Swâ begnornodon Geáta leóde
hlâfordes *hryre*, heorð-geneátas,
cwædon þät he wære woruld-cyning
mannum mildust and mon-þwærust,
leódum lîðost and lof-geornost.

APPENDIX.

The Attack in Finnsburg.*

". . . . . näs byrnað næfre."
Hleoðrode þa heaðo-geong cyning:
"Ne þis ne dagað eástan, ne her draca ne fleógeð,
"ne her þisse healle hornas ne byrnað,
5 "ac fêr forð berað, fugelas singað,
"gylleð græg-hama, gûð-wudu hlynneð,
"scyld scefte oncwyð. Nu scŷneð þes mône
"waðol under wolcnum; nu ârîsað weá-dæda,
"þe þisne folces nîð fremman willað.
10 "Ac onwacnigeað nu, wîgend mîne,
"hebbað eówre handa, hicgeað on ellen,
"winnað on orde, wesað on môde!"
Þâ ârâs monig gold-hladen þegn, gyrde hine his swurde;
þâ tô dura eodon drihtlîce cempan,
15 Sigeferð and Eaha, hyra sweord getugon,
and ät ôðrum durum Ordlâf and Gûðlâf,
and Hengest sylf; hwearf him on lâste.
Þâ git Gârulf Gûðere styrode,
þät hie swâ freólîc feorh forman sîðe
20 tô þære healle durum hyrsta ne bæran,
nu hyt nîða heard ânyman wolde:
ac he frägn ofer eal undearninga,
deór-môd häleð, hwâ þâ duru heólde.
"Sigeferð is mîn nama (cwäð he), ic eom Secgena leód,

* See v. 1069 *seqq.*

25 "wreccа wîde cûð. Fela ic weána gebâd,
"heardra hilda; þe is gyt her witod,
"swäðer þu sylf tô me sêcean wylle."
Þâ wäs on wealle wäl-slihta gehlyn,
sceolde cêlod bord cênum on handa
30 bân-helm berstan. Buruh-þelu dynede,
ôð þät ät þære gûðe Gârulf gecrang,
ealra ærest eorð-bûendra,
Gûðlâfes sunu; ymbe hine gôdra fela
hwearf lacra hræw. Hräfn wandrode
35 sweart and sealo-brûn; swurd-leóma stôd
swylce eal Finns-buruh fŷrenu wære.
Ne gefrägn ic næfre wurðlîcor ät wera hilde
sixtig sige-beorna sêl gebæran,
ne næfre swânas swêtne medo sêl forgyldan,
40 þonne Hnäfe guldon his häg-stealdas.
Hig fuhton fîf dagas, swâ hyra nân ne feól
driht-gesîða, ac hig þâ duru heóldon.
Þâ gewât him wund häleð on wäg gangan,
sæde þät his byrne âbrocen wære,
45 here-sceorpum hrôr, and eác wäs his helm þyrl.
Þâ hine sôna frägn folces hyrde,
hû þâ wîgend hyra wunda genæson
oððe hwäðer þæra hyssa . . . . . .

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
0 005 073 408 0